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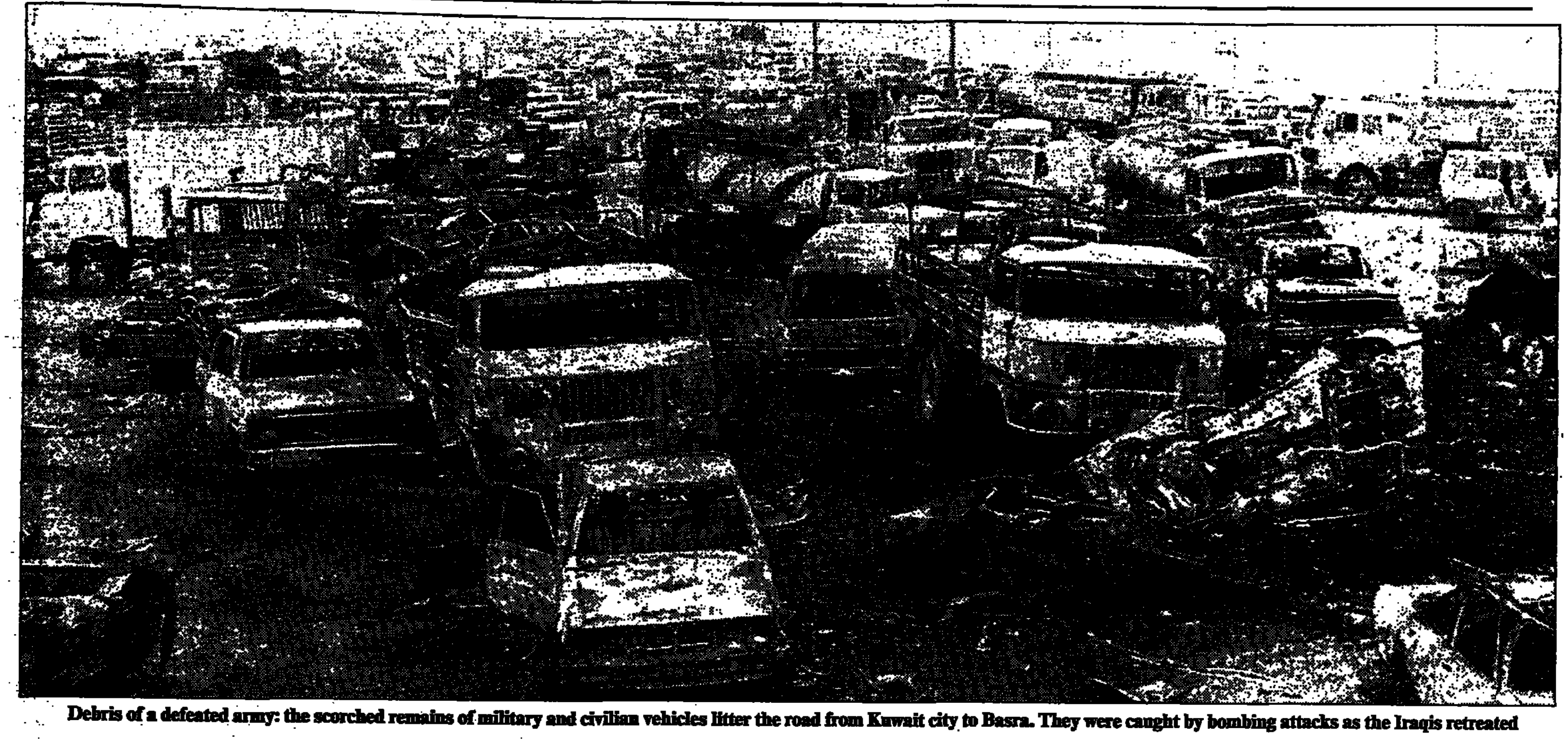
40p

Defeated troops mown down as they flee; US tables ceasefire resolution at UN



Debris of a defeated army: the scorched remains of military and civilian vehicles litter the road from Kuwait city to Basra. They were caught by bombing attacks as the Iraqis retreated

Saddam may head for Algerian exile

By Michael Binyon in London and Martin Fletcher in Washington

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein was reported yesterday to have decided to step down and seek political asylum in Algeria. President Bendjedid and Algerian officials denied that negotiations were taking place.

The French newspaper *Le Monde* reported from Algiers that Saddam was trying to cling to power, but was preparing to go into exile in another Arab country. His family and supporters, fearing for their lives if he were to go, were said to have threatened to kill him if he tried to flee.

Le Monde said that Saddam had approached Algeria on Wednesday evening, some hours before the ceasefire. Algeria was said to have agreed to the request for asylum a few hours later, provided Saddam's successors agreed and the UN coalition did not try to hunt him down for war crimes.

Meanwhile, the *Washington Times* said that Bush administration officials had received intelligence that Saddam might try to flee to the Soviet Union or Mauritania. Saddam's wife and children were reported to have escaped to Mauritania in the early days of the war.

Saddam has not been seen for several days and the allies have repeatedly made clear that they would welcome his downfall. James Baker, the American Secretary of State, said yesterday that he knew nothing of the *Le Monde* report, but added: "I don't think many tears would be shed if Saddam Hussein would leave power in Iraq."

Douglas Hurd last night echoed John Major's Commons remarks that Iraq would be an international pariah so long as Saddam remained. Mr Hurd told Berkshire Conservatives that Iraq could not expect to be readmitted to the community of nations while it had a "delinquent regime trying to conceal in futile rhetoric the disaster to which every returning Iraqi soldier can bear witness".

Mr Hurd went on to say that the nature and demeanour of the Iraqi regime would determine how quickly the UN sanctions against Iraq should be relaxed. "There is no wish to punish the Iraqi people through starvation, and we shall need to look at facilitating humanitarian supplies at an early stage. But the embargo on arms sales, in particular, will be needed for a long time to come."

The United States, which yesterday submitted a draft ceasefire resolution to the UN Security Council, is also adamant that the arms ban must remain. The draft demands the retention of all economic sanctions against Iraq, while lifting those against Kuwait. The Soviet Union is believed to have some difficulty with these paragraphs because they still cover food.

The security council yesterday met in private to discuss the draft, which also calls on the UN to authorise a renewed military offensive if Iraq fails to comply with a list of peace terms in line with the conditions set out in President Bush's ceasefire speech. These include the rescinding of the annexation of Kuwait, the payment of war reparations, the release of prisoners and Kuwaiti detainees, and the identification of minefields, booby traps and chemical weapon stocks. The draft also says that Iraqi commanders must meet their allied counterparts to arrange the military aspects of the ceasefire.

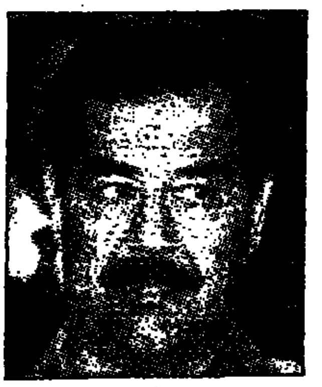
Mr Bush announced yesterday that that meeting would take place today at an unspecified military installation in allied-occupied southern Iraq. His defence secretary, Richard Cheney, said the top priority of the talks would be the return of the prisoners, and gave a warning that the bombing campaign could be resumed "at a moment's notice" if the Iraqis did not comply fully.

Mr Bush took an equally hard line on Iraq's future. He pledged that "not one dime" of American taxpayers' money would be spent on its reconstruction, and he renewed his call for the Iraqi people to topple Saddam. At a meeting with the Saudi ambassador to Washington, he said: "Let's hope that they realise that the best way, or the best peaceful relationship, is to go on and take matters in their own hands and make a new lease on life."

The *Le Monde* report suggested that such a move was already under way. Senior Iraqis had agreed that Saddam had to leave and many of them were working to build a transitional government. Radio Baghdad continued to broadcast paeans to their leader, apparently attempting to bolster his public image. One song played said: "Sir, don't worry, with you Iraq is safe. Only God knows how much we love you, O Saddam." Another said: "You will stay dear with our precious flag in your hands."

The allies want Saddam to leave power as soon as possible, but have insisted that the Iraqis must decide what to do with him. Britain believes that the best solution would be exile in disgrace so that he could slowly be forgotten, as happened with Idi Amin after he was thrown out of power in Uganda. That would prevent any cult of him as a martyr being fostered.

There are several precedents for Arab leaders seeking refuge in other Arab countries. General Gaafar Nimeiry, the former Sudanese leader, sought asylum in Egypt after he was ousted. Iraq gave refuge to several Syrian politicans as well as radical Palestinians who were forced to leave other countries.



Saddam: still trying to cling to power

ON OTHER PAGES

Jordanian dilemma.........6
War crimes pressure.........7
Ceasefire meeting.........8
Thatcher thanked.........9
Bernard Levin.........12
Diary.........12
Leading articles.........13
Letters.........13
A Gulf too deep? Saturday Review.........10

Red Adair: called in to fight raging oil fires

Kuwait's 950 oil wells are on fire

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

ALL Kuwait's 950 producing wells have been set on fire or damaged by Iraqi troops and allied bombing, it was claimed yesterday as Kuwaiti resistance fighters gave out free oil and Red Adair was called in to tackle the blazes.

The gloomy assessment, issued by Kuwait Oil Company officials amid the smoke and fire of the damaged Ahmadi oil complex, is likely to lead to further delays in restoring Kuwaiti oil output. *Last night* the KOC officials declined to speculate how long it would take to restore production..

"Our *provisional* assessment is that they have damaged every producing well," Musab al-Yaseen, a company executive, said. "Our feeling from checks that our personnel have done so far is that all the wells have been exploded."

He said the evidence was that Iraqi forces had placed explosives on all of Kuwait's wellheads, oil-gathering centres and pumps immediately after the invasion on August 2. Detonators and fuses had not been added until later and large-scale destruction of the wells began last week.

"This could have been prevented," Mr al-Yaseen said. "It is a great shame the allies could not have prevented our wells from being exploded. I cried. The allies had a great opportunity to prevent this. The oil wells were not equipped with detonators for

Continued on page 24, col 1

Carnage on the Basra road

By Gordon Airs and Colin Wills in pooled dispatch
from the 1st British Armoured Division near Kuwait City

THE destruction and human cost of the war was seen yesterday at its most horrific on the main route from Kuwait to Iraq. Allied cluster bombing had reduced the road to a grim slaughterhouse.

The road, a few miles north of Kuwait City, was taken by thousands of terrified Iraqi troops fleeing north to their city of Basra from advancing allied armies. But, fresh from looting and pillaging Kuwait city, they drove straight into the guns of American tanks astride the main road — and became targets for allied aircraft.

The result was carnage, with thousands of vehicles solidly blocking the two wide highways for three miles. Bodies of Iraqi soldiers, in their olive green uniforms, lay all over the place, some burnt to a cinder. Soviet-built T55 and more modern T72 tanks were burnt out — with their crews incinerated.

A Queen's Royal Irish Hussars officer on the scene said simply: "I find it impossible to think of words to describe this. I arrived with an advance party of the Desert Rats to find unbelievable scenes of carnage. Dead, mutilated and charred bodies were everywhere."

The Iraqis plundered what they could from the defenceless city and set off in anything that had wheels. In the wreckage, there was everything from military equipment to army ambulances, loaded with hundreds of Kalashnikov automatic rifles, to a Kuwaiti police patrol car with blue flashing lights on top. There, too, were brand new Mercedes, Range Rovers and luxury American limousines once owned by wealthy Kuwaitis.

The evidence of looting was in almost every vehicle. A new roller-skate stood in the road, a child's black shoe, new televisions and video recorders, brass ornaments and antiques, ladies clothing and countless bottles of perfume, a box of fruit salad dishes and even a spin drier lying amid ammunition in a land cruiser.

When the US tanks attacked, with air support, the battle lasted five hours. It was, said US Major Rob Williams, *Apocalypse Now*. "They were desperate and they wanted out — to Iraq," he said. "They fought harder than we have seen before.

"There were artillery pieces and tanks exploding and a huge pall of smoke from burning fuel that made the daytime look like night."

Beside a large new police station along the route, which had to be stormed room by room, by US infantry, there were 40 bundles lying in the hot sun. Several were covered, thankfully, in rags and rugs. Others were burnt to a cinder.

From the wreckage, American soldiers carried out an Iraqi soldier on a stretcher. He had been found in the back of a van with his left foot blown off — and was too scared for two days to cry for help.

Watching this depressing scene were two Kuwaitis who had driven up from their homes in Kuwait City. Said one: "I feel very happy when I see this ... when I see Iraqi people are killed. I am pleased to see this death and destruction because they did more than this to us."

TODAY

I think I am abolished

Joe Joseph on the gloom of the unknown intellectual, French version, a breed fast retreating from existentialism to non-existence
SATURDAY REVIEW

Hard work, naturally

The bare-faced fashion look can be difficult to achieve. Dinah Hall on the ultimate artifice
SATURDAY REVIEW

The making of a herb garden

Francesca Greenoak completes her guide to fine gardening with some hints from an outstanding herb garden. Plus making beautiful borders
SATURDAY REVIEW

How to win the National

Two readers get the chance to win a day out, with a partner, at the Grand National on April 2
PAGE 38

The tycoon observed

Carol Leonard observes an air of detached mystery about Lord Sterling of P & O, who prefers to be the observer
PAGE 27

Rebirth of an hotel

After 50 years, London's Langham reopens as an hotel on Monday under the Hilton flag. Callum Murray looks over glory restored and glory lost
PAGE 17

INSIDE

Lowest poll tax reduced

Wandsworth council in south London reduced what was already the lowest poll tax in England by a further £12. At £136 a head, the community charge in Wandsworth will be £38 below the government's target and £40 less than the Westminster figure.... Page 24

Poll tax table, page 2

Rival acquitted

Jane Salveson, who was accused of murdering Diana Maw with a crossbow two years ago, was yesterday acquitted of burgling a yacht belonging to the man for whom the two women had been rivals in love....... Page 3

Church blow

A fall in the number of church-goers is disclosed in a report to be published next week. Only one in ten adults and one in seven children were church-goers in 1989.............. Page 5

Clifford Longley, page 12

Thai atrocities

The military leaders who seized power in Thailand a week ago have taken summary powers to execute without trial anybody suspected of serious crimes.......... Page 11

Bitter Iraqi PoWs refuse to be sent home

From Christopher Walker
in Kuwait City

HARD evidence appeared yesterday that the regime of President Saddam Hussein will receive its first damning internal indictment when many of the 175,000 Iraqi prisoners of war being held in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait refuse to return home until he is toppled from power.

Interviews with 175 Iraqi POWs, including nine officers, showed that to a man, they will be demanding not to be sent home under the present regime. Few had qualms about giving names to support what amounted to a plea for polictical asylum.

Western military sources confirmed similar feelings among PoWs in Saudi Arabia, leading to a humanitarian problem with the PoWs' demands for refugee status or something similar creating a situation almost unprecedented in a post-war situation.

The PoWs were interviewed through self-appointed spokesman in six fetid cell rooms in the Surra police station — one of a number where POWs are being held in Kuwait. Many who spoke bitterly and at length about the policies of Saddam claimed that the Iraqi army favoured a transfer of power to Ibrahim al-Daoud, a former Iraqi defence minister now in exile in Saudi Arabia.

The passion with which they spoke indicated that they were telling the truth rather than trying to impress their Kuwaiti captors. Many believed that they would be tortured or killed by Baathist agents if they returned.

"What they say about Saddam seems to come from their hearts", said Colonel Salam Muhammad, a Kuwaiti who stood by in the crammed cell rooms with their overpowering stench of urine, as the interviews were conducted. "This could be a big problem for the United Nations."

Many soldiers who gave themselves up in Kuwait City said they believed anti-Saddam feeling was escalating rapidly inside Iraq and would be further encouraged by their own mass refusal to return. "Daoud is very different from Saddam. He is not a man obsessed with hatred and killing", said one soldier from Basra. Many of the 40 sitting bare-footed in the small room shouted or gestured approval for the suggestion.

The PoWs said they were afraid to return because of fear of retribution. Even those who do go back are likely only to increase the groundswell of discontent against those who ordered the war. "I have three daughters, one of whom is only 40-days old and I have not seen her but I will not go back until Saddam is finished", said Captain Muhammad Fared, aged 30. "The Western governments have started to pave the way for freedom in Iraq by fighting this war. We now want them to finish it".

As prisoner after prisoner spoke, interrupting each other in order to vent their anger at the hopeless military situation in which they had been placed, it was possible to detect what emotional and political undercurrents must now be swirling in Iraq.

"I refuse to go back because I will not accept orders from that bloody man anymore", said Lieutenant Abdul Aziz, who refused to retreat and gave himself up with the other officers.

INDEX

Arts.........20,21
Births, marriages, deaths...15
Business.........25-29,36
Classified.........15,16,18-21
Court & social.........14
Crosswords.........15,24
Leading articles.........13
Letters.........13,34
Obituaries.........14
Sport.........37-42
TV & radio.........22,23
Weather.........24
Weekend money.........30-35

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Trading officers to seek scientific advice on 'IQ pills'

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

TRADING standards officers are seeking expert scientific advice on claims that a new brand of vitamin pills can improve children's intelligence.

The officers have successfully prosecuted one company and are bringing an action against another that has used IQ references in their packaging or advertising.

The officers are looking at Healthcrafts Vitachieve multivitamin and mineral tablets, launched earlier this week to coincide with the publication of a study of their effects on American school children.

The study was funded by the Dietary Research Foundation, an independent British charity which is to receive 5 per cent of the proceeds from the sales of the product. The tablets are being marketed by Booker Nutritional Products, of Weybridge, Surrey, which provided them for the study.

Advertisements for the pills say: "Recent US tests proved that Healthcrafts Vitachieve increased the average IQ score of children in a trial. Only Vitachieve carries the official seal of the Dietary Research Foundation, an independent body of scientific experts who formulated Vitachieve especially for the test. Any similar products on sale were not tested and are not endorsed by the Dietary Research Foundation."

The findings, published in a special issue of a little-known journal edited by one of the researchers involved, were criticised by the Medical Research Council. The council expressed "very great doubts" about the findings.

Yesterday David Roberts, chief inspector of Shropshire trading standards department, said: "We are taking an interest in this case and will be seeking scientific advice before deciding whether to take any further action. Our general view is that before a product of this type is launched with the support of scientific evidence, that evidence should be widely available for independent scrutiny."

In January, Mr Roberts and colleagues prosecuted Seven Seas, a company based in Hull, over labelling which claimed its Boost IQ multivitamin tablets contained "22 nutrients for healthy bright kids".

The company, which faced three charges under the Trades Descriptions Act 1986, and Food Labelling Regulations 1984, was fined £3,300 and ordered to pay £400 costs.

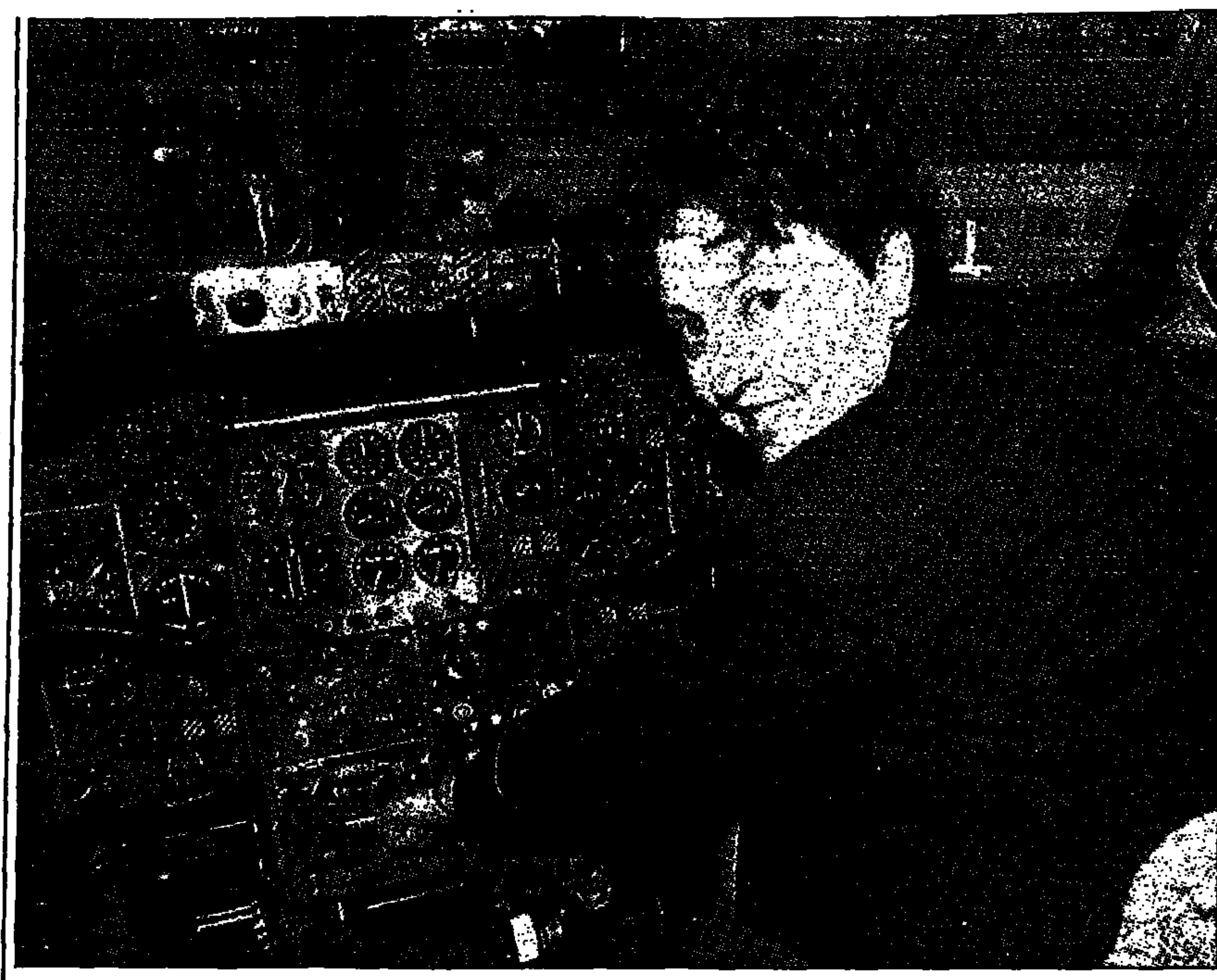
In a second case brought by Mr Roberts's department, Larkhall Laboratories of London are alleged to have contravened the act with its descriptions of its multi-vitamin product, Tandem IQ. The case is expected to be heard by Shrewsbury magistrates this month. Promotional material for the Healthcrafts Vitachieve pills says: "At last... an end to the debate surrounding the possibility of a link between nutritional status and intellectual performance among children.

"Following an extensive study into the relationship between intellectual performance and vitamin and mineral levels conducted by the Dietary Research Foundation, Booker Nutritional Products is launching Healthcrafts Vitachieve, the exact formulation that produced a significant improvement in the average IQ score of the group taking it as part of the DRF's US research programme."

The study's findings were published simultaneously with the launch of the pills at a news conference in London on Wednesday. The results are contained in *Personality and Individual Differences*, a journal edited by Professor Hans Eysenck, an eminent psychologist.

Californian schoolchildren were given the pills daily for 13 weeks and underwent IQ tests before and after receiving them. The second tests showed they had an average gain of four IQ points.

In the journal, Professor Eysenck says: "We do not know how long the effects of such short-term administration as we have used may last. It seems likely that within a few months the effects will be reduced very much, possibly to nil."



High-flier: Anne-Marie Dawe, who was yesterday presented with her wings to become the RAF's first female navigator, checks her cockpit controls. Anne-Marie, aged 22, received her Flying Officer's wings at RAF Finningley, South Yorkshire, after an 18-month course at flying training school. Her parents and her two brothers travelled from the family home in Hornchurch, Essex, for the presentation. Anne-Marie joined the RAF in 1986 because she thought there were good job opportunities for women. "I got a bit of rib-tickling from the men at first, but once they realised that I could do the job as well as them, they learnt to accept me very quickly," she said. Anne-Marie, who received her award from Air Chief Marshal Sir Brendan Jackson, is now posted to Hercules aircraft at RAF Lyneham, in Wiltshire. "My boyfriend is very proud of me now I'm qualified," she said. "I'm just delighted to be a navigator and I have no ambitions to be a top gun pilot at this stage. I think it's a job women can do just as well as men."

Poll tax: levels set for coming year

The following are the latest figures available on new poll tax levels set by councils in England and Wales.

Community Charge levels planned or set by councils

Council	Party	Cur'nt £	New £	Council	Party	Cur'nt £	New £
London boroughs				Gloucester	Lab	353	407
Barking	Lab	280	310	Great Yarmouth	Lab	325	399
Barnet	Con	338	387	Guildford	Con	397	388
Brent	NOC	470	470	Harrogate	SLD	360	395
Bromley	Con	283	330	Hartlepool	Lab	385	437
Camden	Lab	500	440	Havant	Con	338	369
Croydon	Con	287	320	Hereford	SLD	289	351
Ealing	Con	435	395	Hertsmere	Con	413	386
Enfield	Con	329	388	Horsham	Con	297	338
Hackney	Lab	499	462	Huntingdon	Con	298	336
Hammersmith	Lab	325	387	Ipswich	Lab	440	464
Harrow	Con	322	380	Kingswood	Con	357	412
Havering	Lab	350	368	Lancaster	NOC	385	419
Hillingdon	Con	289	370	Lewes	Con	351	385
Hounslow	Lab	396	425	Luton	Con	402	399
Islington	Lab	498	516	Maldon	Con	339	345
Kingston	NOC	344	379	Medina	Con	342	335
Merton	Lab	279	409	Mid Beds	Con	384	405
Redbridge	Con	290	395	Mid Devon	Ind	395	394
Richmond	SLD	395	419	Mid Suffolk	Con	324	370
Tower Hamlets	SLD	297	287	Mid Sussex	Con	317	345
Westminster	Con	195	176	Mole Valley	NOC	387	394
Wandsworth	Con	148	136	New Forest	Con	317	339
Metropolitan districts				Northampton	Con	349	366
Birmingham	Lab	406	405	Northavon	Con	365	410
Bradford	Lab	278	363	North Beds	Con	397	403
Bury	Lab	373	435	North Dorset	Ind	285	339
Coventry	Lab	394	434	North Herts	Con	397	367
Manchester	Lab	425	431	North Norfolk	Con	284	324
Newcastle	Lab	390	456	North Warks	Lab	385	459
Oldham	Lab	365	406	Nottingham	Lab	390	448
Rotherham	Lab	295	369	Pendle	SLD	299	358
Salford	Lab	396	440	Penwith	Con	312	362
Sandwell	Lab	423	459	Peterborough	Lab	360	406
Solihull	Con	388	392	Plymouth	Con	350	380
Stockport	SLD	399	464	Portsmouth	Con	308	372
Sunderland	Lab	310	355	Rochester	Con	248	190
Walsall	Lab	425	475	Rother	Con	352	372
Wigan	Lab	347	407	Runnymede	Con	295	338
Wolverhampton	Lab	418	415	Rushmoor	Con	325	370
				Ryedale	Con	283	341
Shire districts				St Albans	Con	394	380
Adur	SLD	349	405	St Edmunds	Con	317	379
Aylesbury Vale	Con	347	390	Selby	Con	286	345
Babergh	Con	330	365	Shrewsbury	Lab	324	396
Barrow	Lab	328	416	South Beds	Con	401	405
Basingstoke	Con	319	326	South Bucks	Con	393	361
Berwick	NOC	321	358	South Cambs	Ind	328	344
Beverley	Con	373	426	Southend	Con	378	348
Boothferry	Con	290	345	South Lakeland	Con	345	413
Bournemouth	Con	320	360	South Somerset	SLD	362	411
Braintree	Con	343	352	South Wight	Con	370	377
Breckland	Con	304	374	Spelthorne	Con	368	387
Bridgnorth	Ind	307	350	Stockton	Lab	428	452
Brighton	Lab	372	395	Stratford	Con	374	414
Bristol	Lab	425	500	Stroud	NOC	372	445
Broadland	Con	319	368	Suffolk Coast	Con	389	370
Broxbourne	Con	361	360	Tandridge	SLD	371	413
Cambridge	Lab	448	469	Taunton Deane	Con	349	380
Caradon	Ind	315	375	Teignbridge	Ind	364	405
Carlisle	Lab	365	438	Tewkesbury	Con	355	385
Carrick	SLD	323	390	Three Rivers	Con	419	415
Castle Morpeth	NOC	432	444	Torbay	SLD	395	380
Castle Point	Con	377	355	Torridge	Ind	281	346
Charnwood	Con	372	397	Uttlesford	Con	348	339
Chelmsford	SLD	392	363	Wansbeck	Lab	348	395
Cheltenham	NOC	364	415	Wansdyke	Con	361	418
Cherwell	Con	362	386	Warwick	Con	386	408
Chiltern	Con	390	383	Watford	Lab	403	434
Colchester	SLD	332	348	Waveney	Lab	349	392
Copeland	Lab	326	369	Waverley	Con	405	396
Craven	NOC	249	304	Wealden	Con	348	386
Crawley	Lab	345	375	West Dorset	Ind	313	365
Dacorum	Con	398	365	West Lancs	NOC	378	399
Darlington	Lab	356	415	West Oxon	Ind	412	380
Daventry	Con	353	380	West Somerset	SLD	334	380
Dover	Con	295	329	White Horse	Con	403	405
Eastbourne	NOC	385	414	Windsor	Con	449	427
East Cambs	Ind	303	355	Woodspring	Con	395	444
East Herts	Con	370	360	Worthing	Con	298	335
Eden	Ind	295	355	Wycombe	Con	400	408
Elmbridge	Con	448	470				
Epsom	Res	452	488	**Welsh districts**			
Exeter	Lab	344	379	Cardiff	Lab	258	277
Fareham	Con	360	365	Newport	Lab	238	275
Fenland	Con	291	372	Ogwr	Lab	223	255
Forest Heath	Con	363	357	Rhondda	Lab	216	252
Fylde	Con	387	407	Swansea	Lab	264	275

Key: Con=Conservative; Lab=Labour; NOC=No Overall Control; Ind=Independent; Res=Ratepayers Assoc. Sources: Local authorities, surveys by: The Times; Municipal Journal; Local Government Chronicle.

Wandsworth sets lowest rate, page 24

£1m cuts to police budget contested

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE chief constable of Warwickshire is challenging the legality of his county council's decision to cut £1 million from a budget agreed by the police committee.

Peter Joslin said the force could save only £500,000 and faced the loss of 76 police and civilian jobs. The Conservative-controlled council was legally obliged to find funds for the regular establishment of the force.

John Vereker, the council leader, is adamant that the cuts are legally binding and that Mr Joslin has no case.

The financial pressure on police forces prompted a call yesterday for a royal commission on funding from John Newing, chief constable of Derbyshire, where a recent report from an inspector of constabulary criticised the poor state of police premises. The Labour-controlled council is planning to cut £2.4 million from the £65 million police budget next year.

Third child lost

A boy aged two, who was drowned while his mother worked indoors, was her third child to die tragically, an inquest in Winchester was told yesterday. Heather Smith, aged 27, of Bramdean, Hampshire, said that she found her son, Alex, lying in the garden pond after playing with their dog. Coroner Tim Milligan, who was told that Mrs Smith lost her first son, Jamie, in a cot death, and her daughter Kelly who suffered from Down's syndrome, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Pilot remanded

A former airline pilot yesterday pleaded not guilty to endangering a jumbo jet and its passengers while flying over Heathrow airport. William Stewart, aged 53, of Wokingham, Berkshire, appearing at Isleworth crown court, west London, also denied negligently causing the plane to endanger people or property on the ground. The case was adjourned until April 23.

Murder enquiry

Police launched an investigation yesterday after a man aged 49 was stabbed to death at his workplace, Knights Bacon Company, meat distributors, of Witton, West Midlands. A police officer said the dead man, who has not been named, from Great Barr, Birmingham, had been stabbed and died of his injuries at the warehouse. A man was being interviewed by police last night.

Cholera action

Food imports from Peru have been restricted as a precaution against the spread of cholera after an outbreak killed 100 Peruvians and affected 20,000 others. Frozen food and fresh produce airfreighted to Britain have been banned, said the health department, which also advised against eating creamed coconut under the brand names of KTC Pure Creamed Coconut (7oz) and Sea Isle Pure Creamed Coconut (7oz).

Court protection

A bill to give new legal safeguards to defendants suffering from a mental handicap or illness was given a second reading in the Commons yesterday. At present, those unfit to plead because of insanity must be detained indefinitely. The bill requires courts to examine the facts and, if the accused is found to have committed the offence, the court will have options, ranging from detention to release.

Patten puts Conservatives on alert for an early poll

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CHRIS Patten, the Conservative party chairman, will today put his troops on alert for a possible early general election.

Mr Patten's rallying cry to some 600 Tory councillors gathered in London will be directed ostensibly at whipping up enthusiasm for the district council elections on May 2. However, with the outcome of this countrywide test of public opinion set to have a crucial bearing on whether John Major chooses to go to the country in June, Mr Patten's audience will be in little doubt of its true significance.

The pre-election atmosphere will be intensified by the sight of the prime minister making his first public speech since the allies' success in the Gulf war.

His speech will be closely scrutinised for hints about election timing.

Particular attention will be paid to any remarks he and Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, have to make about the fate of the poll tax. Earlier this week, a meeting of parliamentary private secretaries — unpaid ministerial legmen — to discuss the poll tax ended inconclusively.

As the difficulties of finding an alternative to the poll tax without creating another raft of disgruntled losers become more apparent, there are growing suggestions at Westminster among ministers and backbenchers that it might be better to revise the existing system rather than make wholesale changes. Wandsworth's announcement yesterday of a poll tax of £136 from April is likely to strengthen their case that the present arrangements can be made to work. However, Mr Heseltine appears wedded to the goal of radical changes.

● Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, is considering the appointment of commissioners to take over the running of badly managed housing authorities in England (John Lewis writes).

He is discussing with colleagues whether the new power and another to prevent councils hiding scandals should be included in a bill to be introduced in the autumn.

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Crossbow murder charge woman not guilty of burglary

By Robin Young

THE woman who was accused of murdering Diana Maw with a crossbow two years ago was acquitted yesterday of burgling a yacht belonging to the man for whom the two women had been rivals in love.

Jane Salveson, an interior designer, was also acquitted of handling some of the property stolen from the yacht and of stealing a personal notebook and diary belonging to her former lover, Mr Michael Stevens, a businessman in the computer industry.

After the verdicts were announced at the end of a three-day trial at Knightsbridge crown court, Miss Salveson turned to the jury, nodded and said: "Thank you."

In December 1988 Miss Salveson was arrested and charged with murdering Miss Maw, who was found dead the previous July with a six-inch crossbow bolt embedded in her neck. The Crown Prosecution Service withdrew the case against Miss Salveson in April 1989 on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence against her. In October last year a charge of causing a fire in what was described as a "very personal attack" at Mr Stevens's home in Fulham, west London, while he was on honeymoon with his new bride, Joanna Baldwin, was similarly withdrawn for lack of evidence.

In the latest case Miss Salveson, who lives in Hammersmith, west London, claimed that she had been framed by a man who sold her camera equipment which had been stolen from Mr Stevens's yacht at the end of Cowes Week in August 1989.

She said she met the man, whom she knew as Mark, the day after the break-in. She paid him £300 for the equipment. She told the jury of seven women and five men that she had been watching a fireworks display and drinking with friends at the time the yacht was burgled. She said she had openly used the camera equipment at two weddings because she did not know that it had been stolen.

Bruce Houlder, for the prosecution, suggested that Miss Salveson was suffering from such a "deep sense of emotional loss" after her relationship with Mr Stevens foundered that she spied on him and Miss Baldwin. He said she had photographed them kissing on the deck of his racing yacht Sodium in Southampton.

Miss Salveson said that the photograph had been delivered to her flat anonymously by "some silly so-and-so trying to rub salt into old wounds". She said that Mr Stevens's notebook, which she was alleged to have stolen on a different occasion from the burglary, had found its way into her possession by mistake when the couple exchanged property after their affair ended in May 1988.

Miss Salveson agreed that she had been distraught when her relationship with Mr Stevens came to an end, but said that she recovered within six months.

Outside the court yesterday her solicitor, Neil O'May, said in a statement that Miss Salveson was delighted with the verdicts. "She has felt victimised by the police and their incessant involvement in every aspect of her life. But for these proceedings she would be living an ordinary happy life. She feels completely vindicated by the decision."

Mr O'May added that Miss Salveson had received large numbers of anonymous letters, telephone calls and photographs since she came to public attention. She had no idea who was pestering her.

Salveson: vindicated by the court decision

Sheriff to hear claims of abuse

By Kerry Gill

THE families of nine children, who were seized from their homes on Orkney and taken into care after allegations of ritual abuse, are expected to appear before a children's panel next week to answer the claims.

The children, five girls and four boys aged between eight and 15, are likely to be kept in care on the Scottish mainland until the case is heard by a sheriff later this month. Last night the parents said they had been given no information about their children's whereabouts or even whether brothers and sisters were being kept together.

One mother, whose two sons aged 11 and 15 were taken at dawn on Wednesday, said: "I have heard that the allegations will be put to us. We will refute them because we have not been involved in ritual abuse. We don't know if our boys are together. We are not allowed any communication with them whatsoever. We have less rights than a convicted prisoner."

The allegations made against the four families, who live on South Ronaldsay, were unclear. One parent said she had heard that they were supposed to have taken their children to a field where parents and children dressed in robes and masks before abusive acts took place.

A father said his children, a boy aged nine and a girl aged eight, were taken on Wednesday. The man, who has not been interviewed by the police, said: "It is disgusting. They burst in and took the children. They gave us no information."

The case has caused concern in the local community. Almost one thousand people were due to hold a public meeting last night in St Margaret's Hope to discuss the seizures; all the parents concerned were invited.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Victory in the Gulf — a special report

❝It seemed the stuff of fantasy, a war in which tens of thousands died on one side and barely a handful on the other. Wise men shook their heads when The Sunday Times reported exclusively last August that Pentagon computers were predicting this casualty ratio, which was unprecedented in warfare. Was this techno-triumphalism gone mad? No, the forecast was vindicated this week in the Iraqi desert. In a 16-page special report on the victory in the Gulf in tomorrow's Sunday Times, foreign correspondents report on the courage and tragedies of the 100-hour war; analysts and columnists probe the problems of the peace; and the Jeremiahs who got it wrong are asked to eat their words.❞

A 16-page pull-out, in The Sunday Times tomorrow

French list first 'mad cow' case

By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

INFECTED feedstuff is thought to be the most likely cause of the first officially confirmed case of "mad cow" disease in France, it was disclosed yesterday. More than 30,000 British cattle suspected of suffering from the condition, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), have been slaughtered and post-mortem examination has confirmed the disease in 24,400 of them.

BSE was found in brain tissue from a six-year-old Holstein cow from a dairy farm in Brittany. The other 65 heifers and cows in the herd have been removed for examination. The cow was born in France but its grandmother is understood to have been imported from Britain. Neither the mother nor grandmother showed signs of BSE.

"We do not have much more information as yet," Kevin Taylor, a veterinary officer, said. "But the French have confirmed that the cow was fed meat and bone meal of the kind believed to have been responsible for the outbreak of BSE in Britain, though whether the feed was manufactured in France or imported from Britain is not clear."

The only other country outside Britain and Ireland, where there have been 32 confirmed cases, to have reported an indigenous BSE outbreak is Switzerland last November, where feedstuff is also suspected as the cause. Two cases of BSE were reported earlier from Oman, in animals imported from Britain.

☐ A mysterious ailment of pigs, known as "blue sow" disease, has broken out on more than 1,000 farms in Germany and The Netherlands. The disease causes abortion and stillbirths in sows and lowers piglet production. It is believed to be linked to a similar disease in the United States. Britain does not import pigs from Germany or The Netherlands.

Big Chief sees I-Spy idea back on road

By Joe Joseph

CONTRARY to recent press reports, Big Chief I-Spy is not dead, although he has held no big pow-wows since retiring more than 30 years ago.

Charles Warrell, founder of the book series that sent children looking for earwigs and aeroplanes throughout Britain in the Fifties and Sixties, is flourishing at Budleigh Salterton, Devon. He will be 102 next month, enjoys walking and gardening and still receives the odd letter from former *I-Spy* readers who have tracked Big Chief to his address of Wigwam-on-the-Water.

At the height of I-Spy's glory, Mr Warrell employed two women who did nothing but answer telephone calls from the hundreds of thousands of members of the I-Spy tribe. The *I-Spy* series, which died in 1986, is being revived by Michelin, using photographs instead of drawings. There are other changes. Children are asked to spot sumo wrestlers and sand yachts as well as soccer grounds. When they collect enough points, they can still send off for an I-Spy badge. Now, however, badges will bear the logo of the pneumatic Michelin man.

"I was very surprised to read in a story in *The Daily Telegraph* on the relaunch of the *I-Spy* books that I had apparently died last year," Mr Warrell said yesterday. "The managing editor of the *Telegraph* rang me and asked me if I would accept some champagne." Did he accept? "I most certainly did," he said. The *Telegraph* also published an apology.

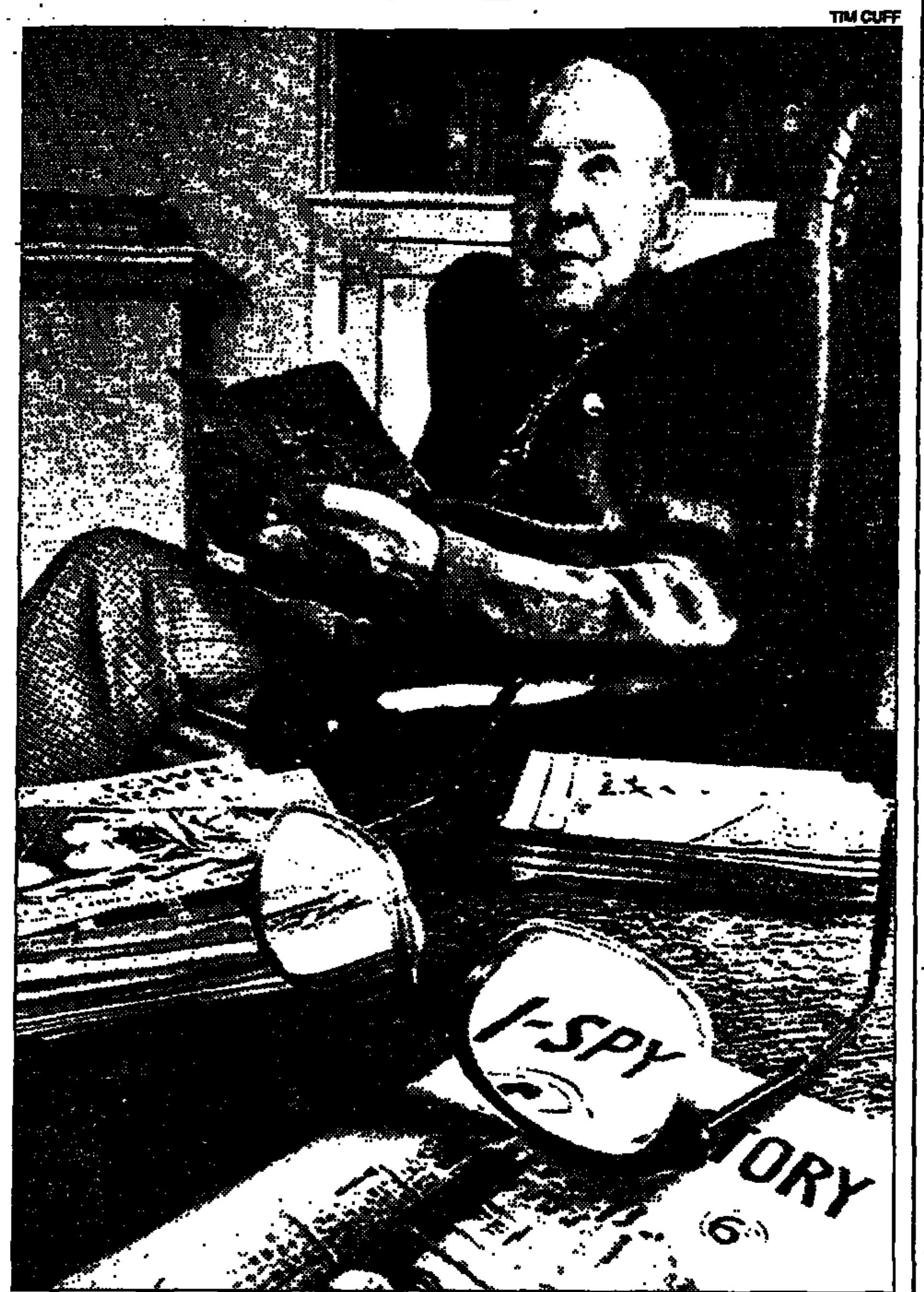
Mr Warrell does not do much spying himself now. Poor eyesight has made driving risky, although he still takes walks and does some gardening. His wife, Marian, who thought up the I-Spy name, is as chirpy as he is, and, he says, "considerably younger". Mr Warrell does, however, have a vivid memory of his heyday.

"Eight publishers turned down the idea for *I-Spy*, so I published them myself," he said. "I've never had a very high opinion of publishers ever since. Woolworths displayed them for a few weeks and they sold like billy-o. Then the *Daily Mail* called and bought my body and soul for two years. I wrote a weekly I-Spy column. Then the *News Chronicle* approached me, and very happy I was till I retired.

"I invented the name Big Chief I-Spy. I travelled the country holding I-Spy pow-wows — enormous gatherings. One of the last was 'I-Spy the city of Bath'. About 5,000 children and adults turned up. They wandered around looking for various things. Then there was a big prize-giving. Once, we hired 80 double-decker buses and took 8,000 children to see the sights of London.

"*I-Spy History* was my favourite. It was also the one that grown-ups and youngsters liked best.

"After I retired, I went to America and approached Kodak. The idea was to sell an I-Spy camera with which children would take pictures and stick them in allocated places in *I-Spy* books. They were very receptive. But I was 65, family affairs intervened and I backed out."



Espying the chief: Charles Warrell, Big Chief I-Spy, aged 102, at home in Devon

More film subsidies demanded by Britain

By Simon Tait
Arts correspondent

EUROPE can take on Hollywood, but British film makers believe that they need more money and commitment from the government to do so.

John Woodward, chief executive of the Producers' Association, has written to Lord Hesketh, the trade minister with responsibility for films, to demand more money to encourage British-European co-operation in film production.

In spite of fears expressed by the British Film Institute last week that the government was going cold on a pledge of £5 million to help revive British film-making, Lord Hesketh has reaffirmed the promise. The money is to be paid over three years, starting with £1 million in April and £2 million each subsequent year, as the basis of a European co-production fund administered by British Screen Finance.

Still in question, however, is whether the money will be Britain's contribution to Eurimages, a Council of Europe project, or the basis for a British-based fund to help raise European capital for English language films.

An announcement by Simon Perry, chief executive of British Screen Finance, that he intends to use the money to top up British projects was welcomed by film makers at a meeting this week, but they are insisting that they also need to join Eurimages, which would cost Britain another £2 million a year.

One film maker at the meeting described the £5 million as: "Too little to do any real good, but too much to ignore, and at least we might get four or five films made which otherwise wouldn't be."

Producers believe that any challenge to American dominance of the film market must be through English-language films. A healthy British industry is, therefore, essential to any European challenge.

University expansion 'done on the cheap'

By John O'Leary, higher education correspondent

UNIVERSITIES are being asked to expand on the cheap, their vice-chancellors said yesterday in a statement warning of threats to quality as a result of this week's allocation of funding for 1991-2.

After meeting to consider the implications of the 9.5 per cent increase in university budgets announced by the Universities Funding Council, the vice-chancellors said that they had reached the limit of efficiency gains that could be made without major damage.

The council has told universities to cut funding levels by 1.5 per cent, and to take in at least 7 per cent more students this autumn. While some will receive 19 per cent budget increases, several will be given only 4.5 per cent more.

Sir Edward Parkes, the vice-chancellors' chairman, said: "Because there is too little money, the excellent is becoming the enemy of the good. In order to expand some universities, others have had their allocations cut to the point where their future is at risk. Where expansion is planned, it is to be done on the cheap."

He said that the result of this week's announcement would be larger classes and less contact between staff and students, less interaction between undergraduates and research students, and more crowded libraries, classrooms and laboratories.

Archaeologists the real winners in Mappin & Webb ruling

By Christopher Warman, property correspondent

THE conservation group Save Britain's Heritage, defeated in its attempt to prevent demolition of the listed Victorian buildings on the Mappin & Webb site in the City of London, yesterday contemplated the task of raising £150,000 to pay Lord Palumbo's legal costs.

Archaeologists, meanwhile, are relishing the prospect of exploring what lies beneath the buildings. Taryn Nixon, excavations officer at the Museum of London, said that the site is certain to yield valuable evidence from Roman and medieval times, and possibly from the Anglo-Saxon period.

"All the indications are that there will be a lot of remains that will be very well preserved, and we want to make a full evaluation of the site's potential so that we can decide with the developers how to treat it," Miss Nixon said.

The prospects for Save, based at Battersea, southwest London, are not so exciting. Marianne Watson-Smyth, one of its two paid staff, said she did not know how much the final legal costs would be but hoped that it would be less than the reported figure of £150,000. "We certainly have not got that amount of money and will have to launch a public appeal to help us," she said. "The Mappin & Webb site is a very important case, but only one of many we are involved with."

In its 16 years' existence Save estimates it has been involved in around 5,000 cases and is now engaged in 500 a year. It relies for its income on gifts from charitable trusts and around £5,000 from Friends of Save, making a total of between £50,000 and £100,000.

● Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, has intervened in a planning dispute between Cardinal Basil Hume's Archdiocese of Westminster and heritage groups over a plan to build archdiocesan offices in the precincts of Westminster Cathedral (Michael McCarthy writes).

Cardinal Hume says the four-storey building is needed for the cathedral choir school and the diocesan education service, responsible for 80,000 children. The conservation lobby, which includes English Heritage, the Royal Fine Art Commission, the Westminster Society, the Victorian Society and the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, says, however, that the plans will ruin the southerly view of the cathedral and will intrude on the surrounding conservation area.

Mr Heseltine intervened on the planning application on Thursday, minutes before it was due to be discussed by Westminster city council's planning and development committee. His move came only hours after a letter of objection was published in *The Times* from three prominent Westminster residents, including Lavender Patten, wife of Chris Patten, Mr Heseltine's immediate predecessor as environment secretary.

Leading article, page 13

Radio haggis has fish fooled

By Nick Nuttall, technology correspondent

BRITISH scientists have developed an electronic "haggis" and a robot "waitress" to help to unravel some of the enduring mysteries about the twilight world of the deep ocean floors.

The haggis, a radio transmitter wrappped in shredded mackerel and sown up in black stocking, is being used to tempt and track the curious fish species that survive the cold temperatures and high pressures at the bottom of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans.

The deep-sea robot, which dispenses the snacks, carries cameras and instruments to monitor the numbers of fish, their swimming directions and the sea currents. It is the first time that the techniques, which were developed to track land and shallow water animals, have been applied to deep ocean floors.

The devices are helping to show that the ocean bottoms have a unique and lively food chain. Scientists used to believe that the deep ocean floor was dead and that anything dumped on the surface floated to a lifeless and secure bottom. Imants Priede, of Aberdeen university, which is at the forefront of deep ocean research, said: "The units are helping to show that there is no place on earth where you can go and there is nothing living."

The US government once considered towing the defunct nuclear reactors from polaris submarines into the Pacific and letting them float to the bottom of the sea. Dr Priede, of the department of zoology, said: "It is now evident that if you drop anything from the surface you will have fish crawling over it within an hour. You might as well be putting it in a field and have animals grazing over it."

The two devices, an acoustic pinger and the Aberdeen university deep ocean submersible, have been developed by a team at the Scottish university and the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in the United States. The Natural Environment Research Council and the Wolfson Institute in London are supporting the research.

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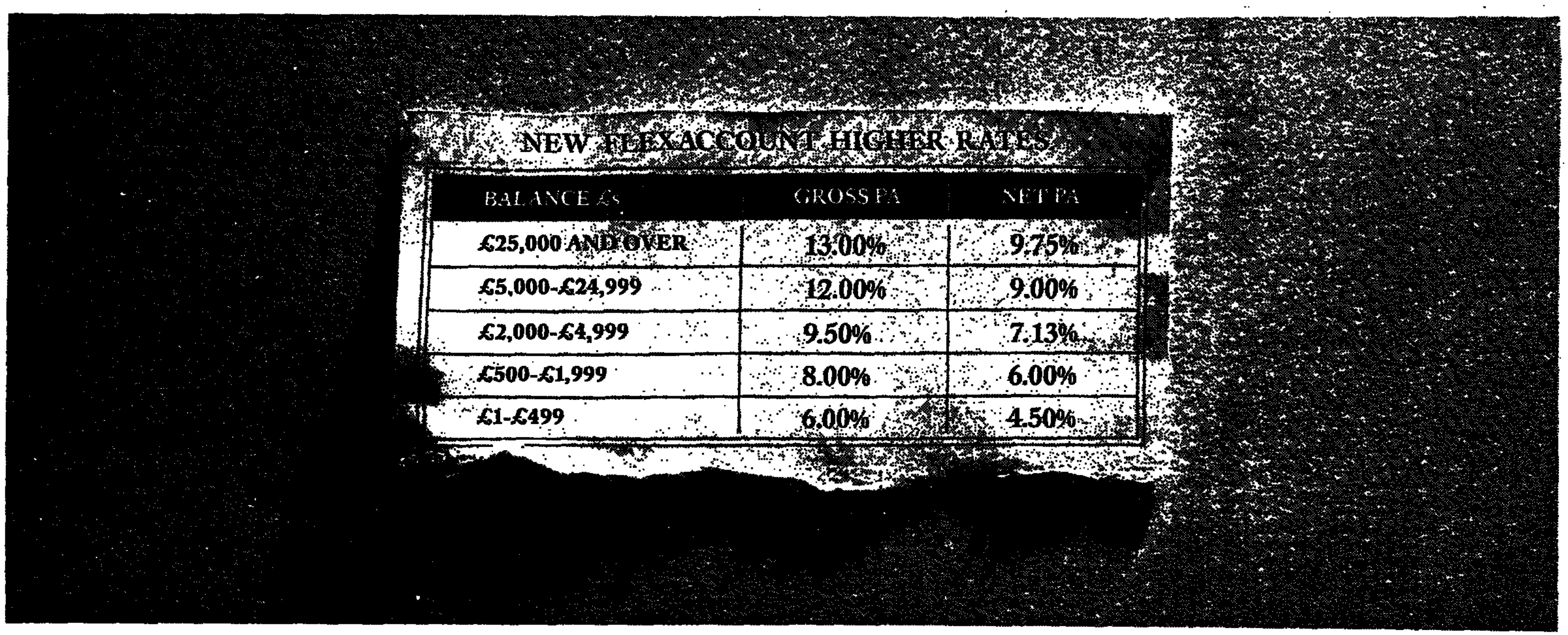

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Estate agents face pressure to tell the unvarnished truth

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN AND ROBERT MORGAN

ENTICING estate agents' brochures describing a covered back passageway as the "conservatory", and a house "convenient for transport" turning out to be next to a railway line could soon be a thing of the past.

A private member's bill introduced by Anthony Coombs, Conservative MP for Wyre Forest ("delightful country area" no doubt), was given an unopposed second reading in the Commons yesterday. The Estate Agents (Property Misdescriptions) bill, sponsored by John Butcher, Conservative MP for Coventry South West ("countryside views"), makes estate agents liable to a fine of £2,000, or an unlimited fine on conviction on indictment, for providing misleading information about the property they are trying to sell, including details of room sizes, location or views.

Moving the second reading Mr Coombs said that it would bring the law on estate agency into line with that on the sale of goods under trade descriptions legislation. It was aimed at that small minority of firms who provided misleading or false descriptions and would enhance the reputation of the profession. "This is not an anti estate agents' bill. I believe it will assist the estate agency profession to have a better profile," Mr Coombs said.

The bill is supported by the Consumers' Association and the Law Society. Mr Coombs cited examples provided by the Consumers' Association, where agents had dramatically exaggerated room dimensions, where leasehold properties were described as freehold, and where a property was falsely described as having a National House Building Council guarantee. "Possibly the most notorious case was where a block of flats was blanked out of the picture of a property so it gave the impression that this house enjoyed a rural aspect when plainly it did not."

Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Great Grimsby ("sea views"), accused estate agents of employing a peculiar lyricism in their descriptions. He said that there was a gap in current legislation which the bill would fill by giving housebuyers better protection. The bill, as drafted at present, would not cover properties sold by a bank or building society after a repossession, or the sale of a new property when the details were drawn up by the builder, nor would it cover commercial properties.

Both front benches supported the bill, which now stands a chance of becoming law. It is in line with government proposals, but a lack of parliamentary time has delayed its introduction.

Edward Leigh, under-secretary for trade, not only backed the bill but made clear that he would like to see it widened to cover commercial property. He also indicated that the government would look sympathetically at amendments to bring builders and solicitors who acted as estate agents within its scope. He said that it was reasonable that if the criminal law was to apply to estate agents, the same should apply to others selling property. Nigel Griffiths, for the opposition, said that the measures in the bill were long overdue.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers have welcomed the bill and support the move to widen it to cover all forms of property. They also want it to cover solicitors active as estate agents, and developers, banks, building societies and others selling their own properties.

Widespread decline in church-going as campaigns fail

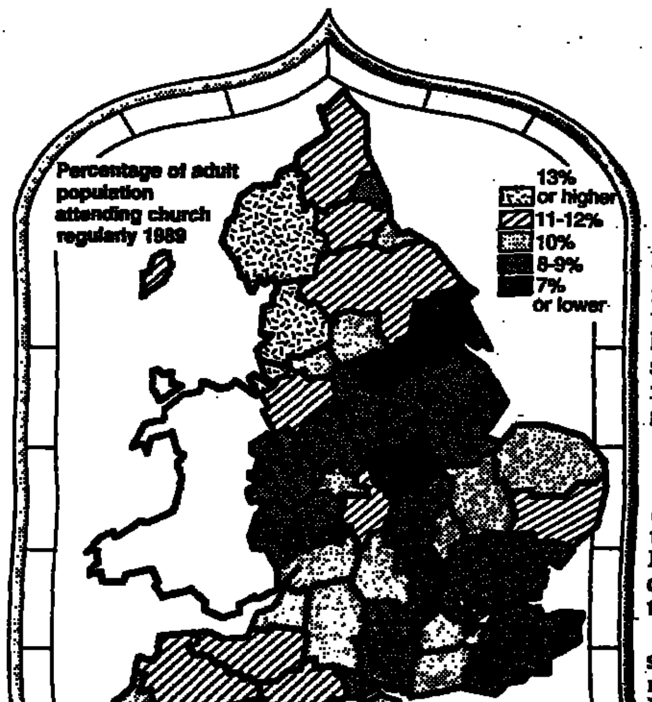
By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A DISTURBING fall in the number of church-goers is disclosed in a report to be published next week.

The survey, which is backed by the next Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, shows a widespread decline throughout England in the 1980s, even though a report last December showed an increase over one year.

The new figures will challenge the main churches to reassess their response to the decade of evangelism, launched this year. They show that evangelism, the "planting" or creating of new congregations, and the big campaigns of the 1980s failed to increase church-going in any county by even 1 per cent.

The least Christian area in 1989 was South Yorkshire, where only 6 per cent of people went to church. Humberside, Leicestershire and northeast inner London were next (7 per cent). By 1989 the only areas where at least 13 per cent went to church were Cumbria and the Roman Catholic strongholds of Lancashire and Merseyside.


Percentage of adult population attending church regularly 1989
13% or higher
11-12%
10%
8-9%
7% or lower

The report shows a decline of at least 5 per cent in Methodist and United Reformed church attendance over much of England between 1985 and 1989. Anglican numbers fell slightly. There was a rapid growth in the independent, Afro-Caribbean and Orthodox sectors and more modest growth among Baptists, Pentecostals and Roman Catholics.

Urban areas had the highest number of church-goers. The more distant rural areas, including the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, had the lowest. Overall, the report says, one in ten adults and one in seven children were church-goers in 1989.

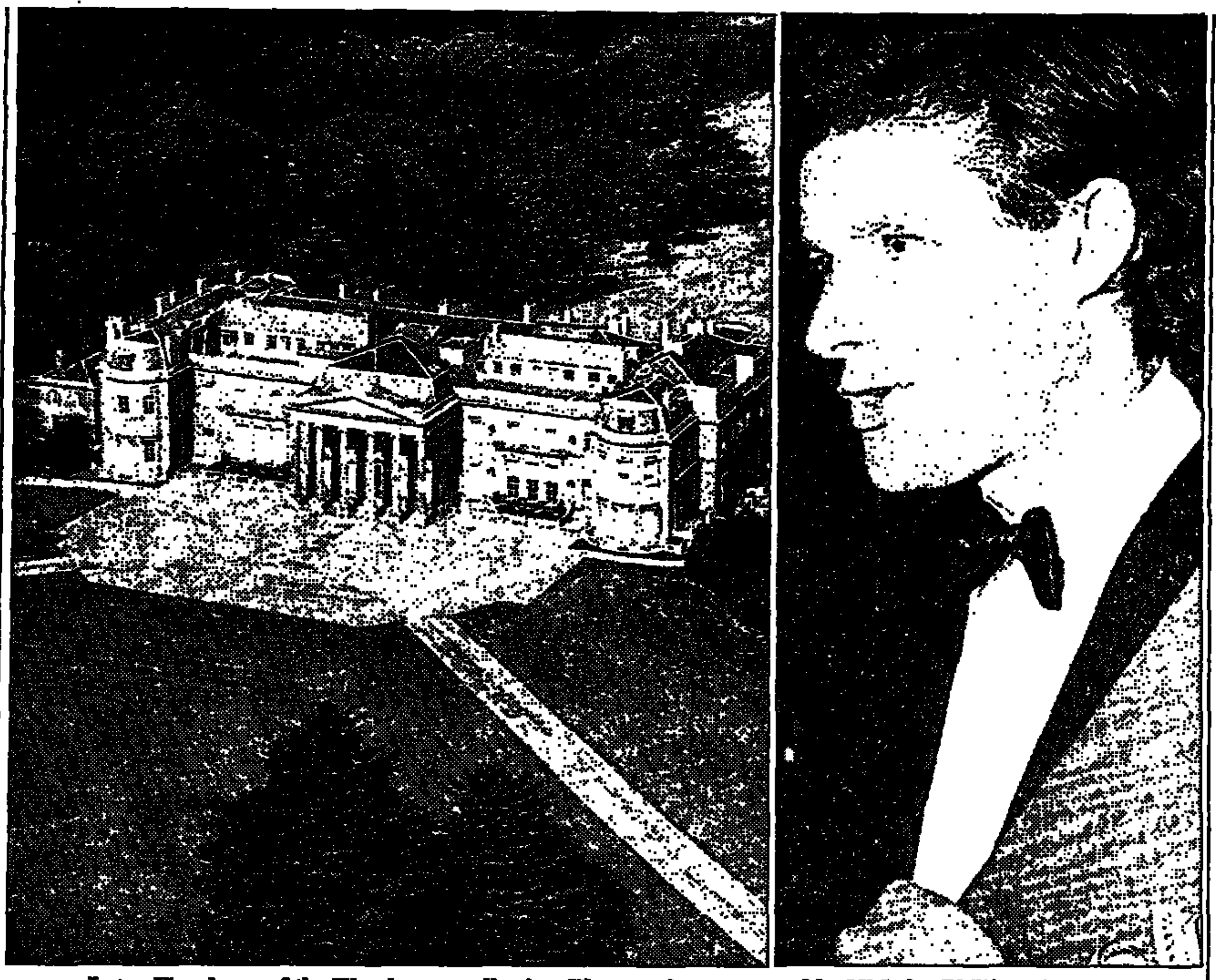
The report, by Marc Europe, a Christian research organisation, raises the issue of an ageing church population. East Sussex has the highest percentage of elderly church-goers, with nearly one third aged over 65.

The survey also shows the strength of different denominations. The Church of England was strong in the countryside, with over 5 per cent of the population at Sunday services in Somerset, Gloucestershire and Cumbria. The Catholics did best in the North-West and North-East, with one in 11 people at mass on Sunday in Merseyside.

Methodists were strong in the North, down the east coast from Cleveland, and in the South-West; Baptists in the South-East and East Anglia. The United Reformed Church was strong in the North, East Anglia and Essex but weak in central London.

English Church Census (Marc Europe, Vision Building, 4 Footscray Road, Eltham, London SE9 2TZ; £10.99 plus p & p)

Carey and heresy, page 12



Luton Hoo, home of the Wernher art collection. The mansion was owned by Nicholas Phillips, above

Owner of Luton Hoo found dead in garage

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

NICHOLAS Phillips, owner of Luton Hoo, the magnificent Bedfordshire stately home, was found dead in a fume-filled garage yesterday morning after apparently taking his life.

Mr Phillips, aged 43, an Old Etonian and former banker, who owned a high-technology business park in Luton, had been reported missing several hours earlier. Dr John Harte, the Bedfordshire coroner, who will hold an inquest, was told that a car had been running behind the closed doors of the garage about 200 yards from the house.

The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, who have spent wedding anniversaries at the Georgian mansion, home of the famous Wernher art collection and set in 4,000 acres landscaped by Capability Brown, were informed. The duke was godfather to Mr Phillips, who is survived by his wife, the Austrian countess Lucy Czernin, and two children, Edward, aged nine, and Charlotte, aged 14.

A friend of Mr Phillips, The businessman Sir Neville Bowman-Shaw, said: "The news has come as such a shock."

Kevin Drew, party agent for the Luton Conservative association, of which Mr Phillips was president, said: "Everyone I know is totally devastated by the news. He will be sorely missed."

Luton Hoo is a mongrel creation, the Earl of Bute having employed Robert Adam to rebuild an older house there in 1760. The house was altered in about 1820 by Sir Robert Smirke. After the second world war half the house was converted into a private residence and the rest into a museum. Each year the house receives thousands of visitors, attracted to the Wernher collection.

Sir Julius Wernher, the South African diamond magnate and Mr Phillips's great-grandfather, compiled a superb line-up of great old masters, including *Portrait of Giacomo Doria* by Titian and Rubens's *Diana and her Hounds* (Sarah Jane Checkland writes).

Sir Julius's widow, Lady Ludlow added to the holdings with a major porcelain collection, while his daughter-in-law, Lady Zia, elder daughter of Grand Duke Michael of Russia and Mr Phillips's grandmother, compiled a collection of Romanoff memorabilia and a group of luxury objects by the Russian Imperial goldsmith Fabergé, the largest collection in England after the Queen's. There are also tapestries, bronzes and medieval ivories.

Terror act figures disclosed

By STEWART TENDLER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

LESS than a quarter of the 193 suspects held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act last year were charged, deported, removed or excluded, the Home Office reported yesterday.

The figures are certain to be raised on Monday when the act is debated for renewal. Last night Roy Hattersley, the shadow home secretary, said they reinforced his case for all-party talks. The figures were consistent with those in previous years, showing that hardly anyone detained under it was eventually charged, he said.

Last year, out of the total of 193 detentions 28 individuals were charged with various offences including six accused of terrorist offences. Another 16 were excluded. The total of 44 dealt with represents 23 per cent of the total held.

Boys 'put hundreds in peril'

Four teenagers were sent to a young offenders' institution yesterday after putting hundreds of train passengers' lives in danger by dropping beer barrels on a main railway line. Two express trains going through Leeds hit the metal barrels at high speed, Judge Hannah was told at Leeds crown court. Damage of £54,000 was done to one train.

Richard Sharlotte, aged 17, of Halton, Leeds, was sentenced to 15 months' youth custody. His brother, John, aged 14, received a two-month term. Kevin Holroyd, aged 14, and Glen Hossack, 15, both of Halton, were sent to a young offenders' institution for three months. All but John Sharlotte admitted recklessly damaging a train, an offence of which he was found guilty. Judge Hannah told them: "You put at risk the lives of hundreds of passengers."

Jail for a fake

A hod-carrier who arrived at a City bank in a Rolls-Royce posing as a rich Arab and tried to trick staff into handing over almost £900,000 was jailed yesterday for 18 months. Denis Cummings, aged 39, of Plumstead, south-east London, arrived in Arab robes and his workboots, Knightsbridge crown court was told.

Surgeon fined

Michael Bailey, aged 47, a surgeon, of Hambledon, Surrey, was fined £400 with £500 costs yesterday after being found guilty of cruelty by abandoning a dog in a Porsche whose inside temperature was 90F while he watched tennis at Wimbledon. Wendy Parker, for Bailey, said that he had left the dog for only half an hour.

Air mishap

The Civil Aviation Authority is investigating an incident in which a 5ft undercarriage fairing smashed into a house in Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, after falling 5,000ft. Trans European Airways has admitted that the fairing fell from a Boeing 737 that had left Birmingham airport with 300 passengers.

Twin's death

Alice Weller, who, with her sister, Emily Weller, were the world's oldest pair of identical twins, has died at a Brighton nursing home aged 102.

Navy signs frigate deal with French

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH and French navy chiefs signed an agreement in London yesterday for a joint design of a new frigate. It was the latest example of growing defence co-operation between the two countries.

Admiral Alain Coatanea, chief of the French naval staff, said after the signing ceremony, in the Admiralty boardroom, that parts of the frigate would be British and parts French. Although the development programme is still at an early stage, successful collaboration would represent the first significant joint naval project between Britain and France.

Admiral Sir Julian Oswald, chief of naval staff, said there was now enough common ground between the French and British on the requirements for an air-defence frigate to give hope that an Anglo-French warship would be in service within ten years.

The Anglo-French co-operation arose out of the debacle of the £12 billion Nato frigate replacement programme, NFR90, which involved eight nations, many with different warship requirements. Britain opted out of the programme in September 1989, followed soon afterwards by France, Italy, Germany and Spain. The other members were the United States, Canada and The Netherlands.

The NFR90 project was supposed to produce 59 warships at a cost of about £200 million each. Sir Julian and Admiral Coatanea said they expected the Anglo-French frigate to be much cheaper. "It's easier to co-operate when there are only two countries involved," Admiral Coatanea said.

The Royal Navy needs to replace the ageing Type 42 destroyer such as HMS Gloucester, which has participated in the war with Iraq. Up to 12 Anglo-French frigates would be ordered, although the number would depend on decisions arising from the government's "options for change" defence review. Admiral Coatanea said the French navy had an initial requirement for four frigates.

Yesterday's agreement was a "joint statement of need", describing the broad characteristics of the future frigate. British and French technical staffs will now investigate which parts should be French and which British.

Buying from Europe delayed rocket launcher four years

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S decision to buy a rocket launcher used in the Gulf war from a European consortium rather than the United States cost the taxpayer an extra £11 million and led to a four-year delay, a committee of MPs said yesterday.

The report of the Commons defence select committee on the multiple launch rocket system (MLRS), on which the government has spent more than £600 million over the last 10 years, evokes memories of the Westland affair. That led to the resignation in 1986 of Michael Heseltine as defence secretary over a cabinet dispute about whether a European or American partner should be found for the troubled helicopter company.

The committee recalls that when Mr Heseltine was running the defence ministry, the original plan to buy the MLRS from the US was abandoned. Instead, the work was farmed out to a European consortium dominated by Germany.

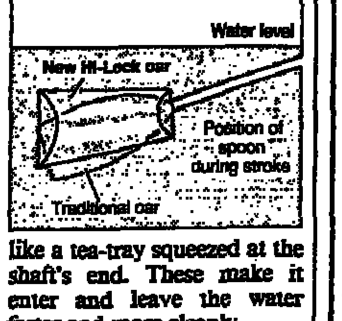
The report says: "The Ministry of Defence saw European production bringing benefits such as a second source of supply and the opportunity for reaping the benefits of increased competition, together with a significant value of work to United Kingdom companies. But in reality European production also brought a four-year delay and an increase in cost."

The delays and the cost increases were mainly caused by wrangling among the European states about workshare agreements. The MPs urge the defence ministry to make sure that future collaborative projects do not cause it to be "tied to a European production source which delivers years later than the alternative source and at greater cost".

Defence committee. The procurement of the multiple launch rocket system and the phoenix remotely controlled piloted vehicle (House of Commons paper 49, session 1990-1, Stationery Office; £10.50)

Race-winning angle

By NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT



A BRITISH engineer has redesigned the oar to give an advantage of two to three lengths over a standard racing course, it is claimed.

Conventional oars have straight lines. Their curved blades or spoons enter the water at around 15 degrees. The new oar, designed by Donald Ellis, managing director of Reredos, Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, has its blade angled at 15 degrees to the shaft. From one side the blade resembles a curved aircraft wing; face on, it looks like a tea-tray squeezed at the shaft's end. These make it enter and leave the water faster and more cleanly.

Under the water the blade's edges lie parallel to the water's surface rather than at an angle causing greater resistance and, for the rower, greater propulsive force.

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JORDAN

Husain turns his back on Saddam and woos Arabs

From RICHARD BEESTON IN AMMAN

KING Husain of Jordan yesterday tried to break out of his country's isolation in the Arab world when he called on his people to put the war behind them and resume normal life.

In a televised address, the Hashemite monarch, many of whose subjects supported Iraq in the war against the coalition, said that Jordan "did not bear a grudge" and was prepared to "turn a new leaf". "On this day we see the begining of a new Arab era," he said. "Today is a day to heal the wounds, restore Arab unity and lay solid foundations for a better future ... This is the day when we should consider how to revive and develop the Arab regional order."

The speech was a clear departure from Jordan's previously pro-Iraqi position and was in stark contrast to King Husain's last televised appearance on February 6, when he angered coalition countries by failing even to mention the occupation of Kuwait by Iraqi forces.

"Today our Kuwaiti brothers celebrate their return to their homes and the restoration of their independence. We share their happiness," said the king, who omitted any mention of his erstwhile ally, President Saddam Hussein. "Forgiveness and burying the past lead to healing the wounds and closing the ranks of the (Arab) nation once again," said the king, in a reference to the strained relations between Jordan and the Arab nations in the coalition, particularly Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Egypt.

Western observers interpreted yesterday's remarks as a clear signal that Jordan wants to be readmitted into the Arab fold, particularly at a time when its economy is vulnerable and when it risks being shut out of key post-war talks on the future of the region.

King Husain made it clear his country's economy was badly in need of financial assistance. Its exports were hit during the Gulf war, its tourism has ceased and the country is having to accommodate thousands of Jordanians forced to abandon their work in Kuwait and the Gulf states.

The Jordanian government said it had lost $8 billion dollars, double its annual domestic economic output, during the Gulf conflict. Unemployment is at a record high of 30 per cent and King Husain said that hundreds of thousands of Jordanians were now living below the poverty line.

The Jordanian leader also made it clear that he wants to be included in any post-war conference on the Middle East, a subject which will be raised by James Baker, the US Secretary of State, when he visits the region this week, on a tour which does not include Amman. In particular King Husain appealed, on behalf of the Palestinians who make up a majority of his subjects, for the world to address the question of Palestine "by the same criteria that it has applied over the question of Kuwait".

Taken together the main elements of the speech suggest that the Jordanian leader feels confident enough about his domestic support to risk arousing the anger of his people by making overtures to the Arab states allied to the West. The rabidly pro-Iraqi Jordanian press yesterday appeared to tone down its criticism of the West, but the Jordanian police took no chances and sealed off large sections of the city to prevent demonstrators from reaching the American embassy.

Western diplomats, however, said that the conciliatory tone of the king's speech might not be enough to remove the deep-seated animosity felt by the Gulf states towards Jordan.

Bernard Levin, page 12

Points of view: a Jordanian watches King Hussain's televised address in which he welcomed the freeing of Kuwait and omitted mention of Saddam

PALESTINIANS

Arafat heads the losers' roll call

By RICHARD BEESTON

AT PALESTINIAN demonstrations these days it is rare to find a poster of Yassir Arafat among the hundreds of portraits of President Saddam Hussein and King Husain. But in the roll call of "losers" from the Gulf war, nobody's name figures more prominently outside Iraq than the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, who has succeeded in alienating Arabs and Westerners alike with his support for Baghdad at a time when the prospects for a solution to the Palestinian question have rarely seemed so promising.

King Husain of Jordan may have compromised his position abroad with his pro-Iraqi stance, but at home he is enjoying unparalleled popularity with his Jordanian and Palestinian subjects. The same domestic support among other pro-Baghdad Arab states, especially Yemen and the Maghreb countries, has similarly enhanced their leaders.

But for Mr Arafat the future looks far bleaker. Not only did he actively pursue his relationship with Saddam, at the expense of ties with politically influential and financially generous Arab countries, but he has also seemingly lost credibility with his own people.

In Jordan the majority Palestinian population is increasingly looking towards King Husain for leadership. In the Israeli-occupied territories the PLO's financial muscle — and hence its political influence — has diminished dramatically since the Gulf states cut off revenue to the organisation.

ISRAEL

Shamir braced for Bush demands

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL has been celebrating and mocking President Saddam Hussein in carnival mood, and the Israeli army is praising the population for its courage under fire over the past 40 days.

But beneath the celebration and relief, Israelis were clearly worried that, although their restraint in the face of attack had earned Western admiration, America will soon demand concessions as it seeks to construct a postwar Middle East order.

"Shamir sees the tunnel at the end of the light" was the *Jerusalem Post*'s headline earlier this week when it reported that Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, had vowed to his Likud party that he would resist "outside pressure". Israelis are awed not only by the precision of the American-led victory over Iraq but also by the determination with which it was carried out. Washington, many Israelis feel, will be in a powerful position to carry this decisiveness into the postwar era.

To some extent, the war restored the American-Israeli strategic relationship, with the US rushing to provide Israel with anti-missile systems. But the right-wing Shamir coalition government has no illusions about the underlying attitudes of the Bush administration, which objects to Jewish settlement of the West Bank, and before the Gulf conflict began had tried to push Israel into a dialogue with the Palestinians. Neither Mr Bush nor James Baker, his Secretary of State, is seen here as "a friend of Israel".

On arms control, Israel's concern is that its own conventional and non-conventional weapons programmes could come under close scrutiny. Joint US-Israeli development of the Arrow missile system will receive fresh impetus and funds, and the Americans have already speeded up delivery to Israel of Apache attack helicopters.

But a question mark will hang over the scale of US military aid to Israel, currently $1.8 billion (£950 million) a year, if the allies press ahead with a regional security system based on disarmament. There are strains over Israel's demand for $1 billion in war-damage compensation.

But the main issues on the agenda remain Israel's relations with the Arab states, and the festering Palestinian question. Israel's hope is that America will resist calls for an international conference.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Jerusalem wins £175m aid

From GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE European Community is eager to leave its disarray over the Gulf behind and to carve out a role in postwar peacemaking and reconstruction as fast as possible. Officials are preparing for the lifting of the embargo on Iraq and foreign ministers will debate the conditions on which it should end when they meet on Monday.

The community announced yesterday that £175 million in aid would be given to Israel and the occupied territories, following similar grants to Turkey, Jordan and Egypt to compensate for economic war damage. Community foreign ministers will shortly resume visits to Arab capitals. A statement by the community said yesterday that "Europe will continue to stand by the Kuwaiti people in the hard task of rebuilding the country."

The Gulf presented Europe with dilemmas which many of its states successfully avoided since the second world war. Nato governments such as Belgium and Germany were confronted with the real possibility that their armed forces might be required to meet binding treaty obligations and to fight for Turkey if it was invaded by Iraq.

Nato mobilised forces for the first time in its history, provoking a unprecedented debate in Germany over the use of armed force. Germans woke up late to the anger which their sluggish reponse raised in America, Israel and most of the rest of Europe.

MAGHREB

Journalist murdered in Algiers

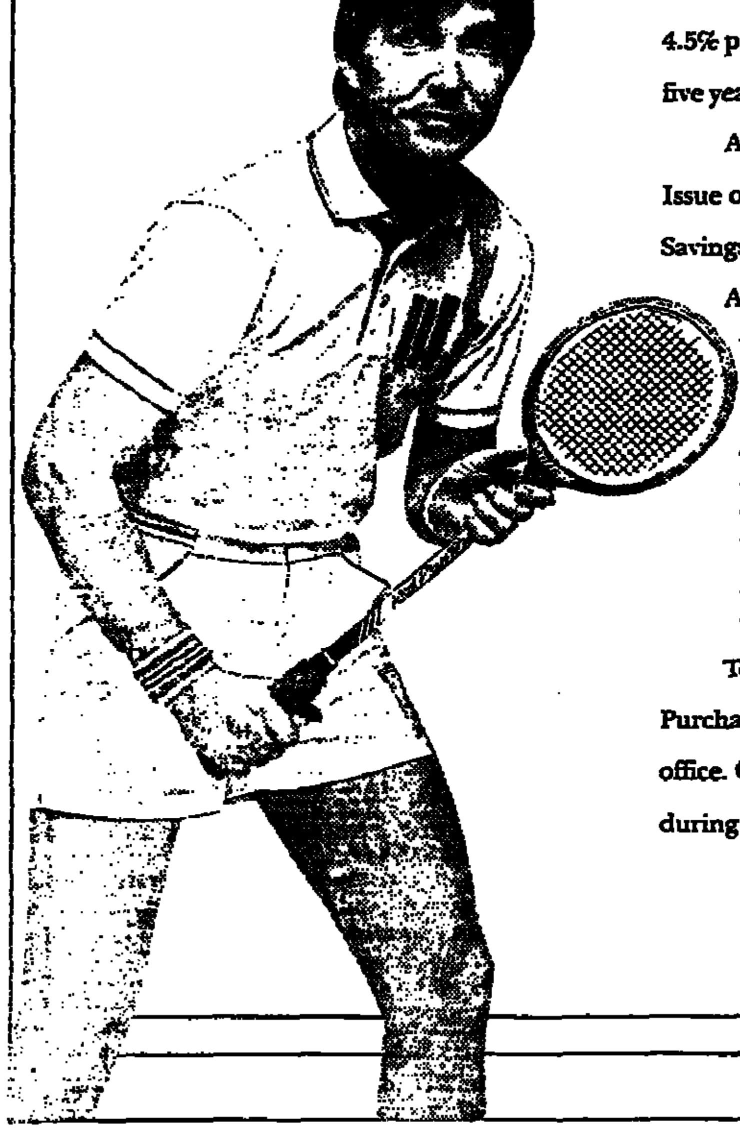
From PENNY GIBBINS
IN TUNIS

A CORRESPONDENT for the Reuter news agency has been stabbed to death at his home in Algiers. Philip Shehadi, who normally reported on Algeria, opened his door last night to be attacked by an unknown man.

A fluent Arabic speaker, Shehadi was recently in the Gulf covering the war. Observers believe that he died at the hands of the radical Palestine Liberation Front group led by Abul Abbas. Abbas, who is in disgrace within the PLO, threatened to attack Western targets in support of Iraq at the start of the Gulf conflict.

The murder is the second assassination in three days: a senior Dutch diplomat, Robert-Jan Ackermann, was shot outside his home by three unknown men. Investigations are going on but there are no clear details about who murdered him.

Shehadi is believed to be of mixed parentage — half-American and half-Lebanese.



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محمد امين الأعمل

JUSTICE AND REPARATIONS

Allied pressure grows for war crimes trials

By Michael Binyon, Diplomatic Editor

MUTILATIONS and torture inflicted on Kuwaitis by Iraqi soldiers have provoked horror throughout the coalition and increased the pressure for immediate prosecution of war criminals.

But, despite the warning by President Bush and allied leaders that anyone guilty of breaking the Geneva conventions would be held personally liable, the difficulties of enforcing justice are enormous. It is unclear who should lead any prosecution, under what law the Iraqis should be judged, where trials should be held and how the suspects can be apprehended.

Unlike the victorious forces at the end of the second world war, the allies do not occupy all Iraq, and cannot arrest suspects who have fled to Baghdad. The chances of the Iraqi government allowing allied forces in to question suspects is slim, nor is their extradition to Kuwait likely. And the man who would head any list of indictments, Saddam Hussein, still clings to power in Baghdad.

The allies say they have full legal authority to begin prosecutions under international law. The security council resolution 674 reminds Iraqis of their personal liability, and requests states to compile evidence of any war crimes.

Allied forces in the field have begun to do this. Iraqis taken prisoner will be screened and questioned if any are suspected of war crimes. Any evidence will be transmitted to the United Nations secretary-general for him to decide whether prosecutions should be brought. But the allies will probably need a new UN resolution to take personal action against Saddam Hussein, as they repeatedly insisted before and during the war that they were not aiming for his death or overthrow. Any attempt to put him on trial could cause an outcry in much of the Arab world.

A Nuremburg-style court is unlikely. There have been no mass prosecutions of war criminals since those in Germany and Japan, and the distant precedents are not easily transferable. With 28 coalition members, it would be difficult to agree how the prosecution should be conducted and according to what laws. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait would undoubtedly press for suspects to be tried under Islamic law. Those convicted would face the death penalty.

Responsibility for any trials would probably be left to the Arab members of the coalition. These countries also are likely to lodge the main claims against Iraq for war reparations, another contentious political issue.

Although Iraq has accepted UN resolutions holding it liable to pay reparations, enforcement on a bankrupt country could jeopardise any hope of economic recovery. It could convince embittered Iraqis that the allied aim is the long-term destruction of their country and this might rally support around Saddam. And enforcement could pose formidable collection problems.

Experts estimate it will take ten years to rebuild Iraq's infrastructure. Oil is the only commodity that could raise the cash for Kuwait, and until the oil installations are repaired, the sanctions lifted and the price of oil rises in a market already suffering a glut, the Iraqis cannot easily be compelled to pay:

No one realistically expects reparations can ever be enforced, nor that Eastern Europe will ever get back the huge sums owed to it before the war by Iraq. The country's bankruptcy after the Iran-Iraq war is what provoked the invasion of Kuwait. Realpolitik dictates that reparations will remain a dead letter.

Mary Kaldor, page 12
Leading article, page 13

ATROCITIES

Kuwaitis drained of blood and left to die by Iraqis

By Nicholas Watt and Our Foreign Staff

BODIES were left in the streets of Kuwait City after being bled to death to provide the Iraqis with blood supplies, a resistance fighter said yesterday.

Mishaal Abdulla, aged 30, said Iraqi soldiers and men in white coats, who looked like doctors, seized nine people in Kurain suburb earlier this week. Witnesses said the people were bled to death behind poorly drawn curtains in the middle of a street.

Mr Abdulla, an army lieutenant, said the witnesses had told him the Iraqis also appeared to remove internal organs. "The people said they took away the blood in bottles. I saw the bodies afterwards. They had catheters sticking out of their necks. Only three were cut open," he said.

Abdul Behbehani, a doctor from the city's Mubarak hospital, said: "The Iraqi military was short of blood. Maybe they needed body parts too. They were criminals. They could do the street surgery even if it didn't work."

Mr Abdulla also said he had seen 12 Kuwaiti women, their heads shaved and dressed only in thin, bloodstained nightclothes, in the botanical gardens one night last November surrounded by Iraqi soldiers. "They were standing silently as if in shock. I don't know what happened to them. I had to go before the Iraqis spotted me," he said.

A prominent gynaecologist known only as Dr Hisham, who was suspected of treating resistance fighters, was hanged in front of his house for three days after his eyes were gouged out as a lesson to others, according to Dr Hasan, a Palestinian who preferred not to be fully identified. "One of his nurses saw him there and didn't recognise him," Dr Hasan added.

In the morgue of Mubarak hospital, stifling with the stench of death, Dr Behbehani described the wounds of two victims. Forty-one corpses with bullet, knife and burn wounds, many with eyes gouged out, lay in the basement of the hospital.

Speaking angrily, but clinically precise, he said: "This is a recent cadaver. You can see his torture. His skull has been smashed, his brains are out, his eyes are gouged out, he has been shot from close range. But he is lucky. He is recognisable. His family will be able to identify him. Others you can barely identify as human."

Dr Behbehani went to a badly burned man. "I think this man was burned before he was dead," he said. "He has no face, no eyes, no muscles left on his legs. Look at the bullet hole in his left ear.

"We want the world to believe what we said. These Iraqis are war criminals."

Cheer leader: Barbara Bush waving the Stars and Stripes at Fort Meade, Maryland, during a visit to the families of American soldiers deployed in the Gulf

Brussels seeks to control arms trade

Brussels — British forces in the Gulf found themselves facing sophisticated weapons made in friendly European countries (Peter Guilford writes). The European Commission would like to control the trade by merging Europe's divided arms market.

Brussels wants the entire arms production chain, from research through to exports, to be controlled collectively by European governments when they forge a common foreign and security policy.

A British government spokesman said the commission's call "reflects our own approach". But he said the government would insist on maintaining its veto on decisions on the arms trade.

EC leaders supported export controls during their Rome summit last December, but the question of a joint arms research and production policy was left open.

Epidemic feared

New York — Epidemics could kill more Iraqis than the allied bombardment and land fighting, according to Richard Reid, a UN official just back from Baghdad. Mr Reid's report warned of cholera, typhoid, meningitis, measles, poliomyelitis, hepatitis A and malaria.

Troops must go

Nicosia — Iran said yesterday that the Muslim world would not allow Western troops to stay in southern Iraq. However, Tehran radio's international service added that Iraqis would soon break their silence and hold President Saddam Hussein responsible for their country's defeat by the coalition. *(Reuter)*

Royal scorn

Swansea — The Prince of Wales yesterday revealed his contempt for Saddam Hussein during a meeting with airmen's wives and girlfriends. He told them: "I think he is a madman and I am very relieved that it is all over. Our servicemen have done a good job."

Queen at HQ

High Wycombe — The Queen toured Britain's Gulf war command centre here yesterday to study battle planning. She spent an hour in the underground base for Operation Granby, the code name for Britain's Gulf operations.

COMMERCE

Whiff of peace revives tourist industry fortunes

By Peter Victor

THE British tourist industry looked to the future in hope yesterday after the ceasefire was announced. British Airways led the way in announcing the resumption of two Middle East services suspended at the beginning of the war.

Twice-weekly flights will start again to Bahrain on March 10 and to Tel Aviv on March 14. This means BA will have restarted services to all its Middle East destinations except Kuwait, Riyadh and Dhahran.

BA has been hit hard by the war, seeing passenger levels slump on its normally lucrative North American routes. However, earlier this week BA said there had been some improvement on American routes as the end of the war approached.

The British Tourist Authority was already resigned to a shortfall of American visitors in 1991 even before the war began, because of the US recession and the weakness of the dollar against the pound.

Tour operators reported an increase in bookings earlier this week as would-be holidaymakers saw the end of the war in sight. The Association of British Travel Agents (Abta), said that many more people would start flocking back to travel shops. Keith Betton, an Abta spokesman, said: "Now the war is over, we expect people to start booking holidays very quickly. We've noticed that whenever there's been a whiff of peace in the conflict, bookings have picked up. It certainly won't be too late to book a summer holiday. People have been going to travel agents for brochures — now we think they'll be booking."

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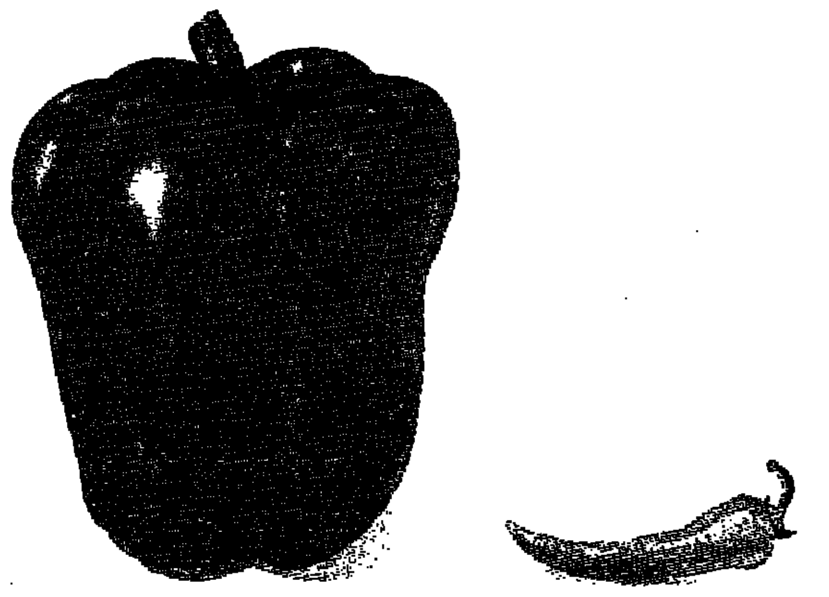

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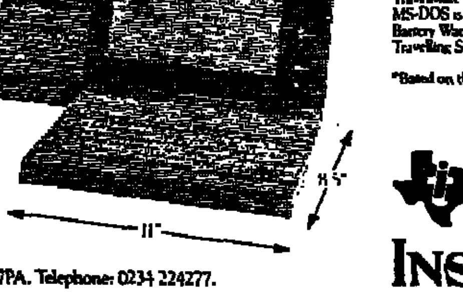

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Desert rendezvous as commanders begin to count the casualties

Generals to meet defeated enemy on the battlefield

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

COMMANDERS from the allied and Iraqi forces are to meet today in the war zone to discuss ceasefire arrangements. The leading figures on the allied side will be General Norman Schwarzkopf, representing the United States, Lieutenant-General Sir Peter de la Billière, from Britain, and Lieutenant-General Khaled bin Sultan, from Saudi Arabia.

It is not clear who will represent the Iraqi forces. The Iraqi armed forces chief of staff is Lieutenant-General Hussein Rashid, who was appointed by President Saddam Hussein in October. Nor was it clear last night who had ordered the Iraqi military commanders to meet their allied counterparts today. The BBC monitoring service at Caversham, Berkshire, which has been monitoring Baghdad radio, said there had been no reference to the meeting.

The military headquarters for the Iraqi forces who were in the Kuwaiti theatre of operations is in Basra. But it seems unlikely that the commanders in Basra would attend a meeting with the allies unless there had been authorisation from Baghdad, particularly since the sensitive issue of allied prisoners of war would not be the responsibility of the commanders. Most of the allied PoWs are air force crews who were shot down.

Top of the agenda will be the exchange of prisoners. Iraq has 13 known PoWs: nine American, two British, one Italian and one Kuwaiti. But there are 56 others listed as missing in action, including ten British airmen. It is possible that some may be alive and being held prisoner. The allies have so many prisoners of war that they are still trying to process them all. Sending them back to Iraq will be a complex procedure.

Yesterday six more Iraqis were killed and six wounded in an exchange of gunfire with American troops at a checkpoint. Brigadier-General Richard Neal, US military spokesman, said that soldiers from the 24th US Infantry Division, manning a checkpoint, stopped for questioning two buses that were heading west before returning home north. Gunfire erupted from the second bus, and the US soldiers returned fire, destroying the vehicle. Nine Iraqis were taken prisoner.

General Neal predicted that as the extent of the Iraqi casualties became more widely known inside Iraq, it would feed popular unrest that could lead to the fall of Saddam. He said: "Reports of unrest inside Iraq are only the tip of the iceberg of the public disenchantment facing the Iraqi regime as the dimensions of its defeat in Kuwait sinks in. I think what you're going to see is an emerging realisation of what he has done to their country. And I hope it leads to his removal. But that's purely a personal opinion."

US marines sweeping the battlefield were still finding pockets of Iraqi soldiers. Kuwaiti students accompanying the US troops were using loudspeakers to persuade Iraqis to surrender. General Neal said it seemed the Iraqi chemical warfare capacity might not have been as great as had been feared. It appeared that the Iraqis were "more afraid of our chemical capabilities", he said. "Some of their chemical equipment left a lot to be desired. Surprisingly, some of the Republican Guard forces had even worse equipment than some of the other forces."

British forces dug mass graves for Iraqi soldiers on the battlefield yesterday as helicopters flew boots and blankets to Iraqi prisoners, a senior British military official said. Colonel Barry Stephens told a military briefing in Riyadh that dealing with the growing numbers of Iraqi prisoners had become almost as harrowing a task as burying the dead (Reuter reports from Riyadh). He would not give an estimate for the Iraqi dead. "I can't give you a precise number. We've been laying them to rest in mass graves," he said.

Bitter parting: Al Kozakiewicz, aged 23, a tankman of the US 24th Mechanised Infantry, weeps for a comrade killed by mortar fire in the Euphrates valley

SOVIET UNION

Politicians and military vie to explain defeat

From Mary Dejevsky in Moscow

THE Soviet Union was a non-combatant in the Gulf war, but it suffered two resounding defeats none the less. On the field of battle, the Iraqi forces, equipped largely with Soviet weapons, were convincingly beaten. In the diplomatic arena, successive Soviet peace initiatives, culminating in the so-called Gorbachev plan, all failed. Kuwait was regained by the use of military means which Moscow had campaigned so fiercely to avoid.

These two Soviet defeats are already causing much soul-searching in Moscow. On Thursday evening, the defence minister, Marshal Dmitri Yazov, was quizzed in the Soviet parliament about the performance of Soviet weapons. His reply showed unusual candour for a Soviet defence minister, but it also exuded self-interest.

"What happened in Kuwait and Iraq necessitates a review of the attitude to the army's air defence and the country's entire air defence system," he said, mentioning that a special conference would be held to discuss the lessons the Soviet Union should learn. He said he knew of no instance where a Soviet-made Iraqi fighter had shot down any allied plane or missile, but claimed 93 allied fighters were destroyed by Soviet-made Shilka air defence systems, suggesting that the air defence systems had performed better.

Marshal Yazov's remarks about the need for a thorough review of Soviet air defences probably belong as much in the context of the Soviet arms spending debate as in any comparison of superpower arms strength.

The defeat suffered by Iraq, in which high-technology weapons determined both the strategy and the victory, gives Soviet generals a unique opportunity to press their case. However, in recognising also the need for a review of strategy as well — a cause dear to the hearts of army reformers — the marshal was acknowledging that more was wrong with the Soviet military than its weapons.

During the fighting, another version of that argument prevailed. According to this, any inadequacies in the Iraqi performance lay more with the Iraqis than with their equipment. Yesterday, that view was expressed again by the arch-traditionalist and former Warsaw Pact chief, Marshal Viktor Kulikov. The marshal, who is now an active member of the Soviet parliament, denied that Soviet equipment was defective, blaming the defeat mainly on the poor training and general inadequacy of Iraqi soldiers.

Acknowledging that most Iraqi officers were Soviet-trained, he told the independent Interfax agency: "You cannot always succeed in planting your knowledge into someone else's head." He went on to criticise the Iraqi decision to dig its troops in so deeply, which left them immobile and inflexible.

A worried *Pravda* correspondent asked whether the Soviet Union had weapons to match those being used by the American forces in Iraq. He was told that they had some, but not all of them.

While the Soviet military post mortem on the Gulf war is likely to concentrate more on spending than on strategy, at least in its early stages, the diplomatic post mortem will focus entirely on strategy and could rapidly become more ruthless. Soviet foreign policy throughout the war seemed to contain three divergent strands. There was a pro-American view which advocated full participation in the anti-Iraq coalition; a pro-Iraqi view, which argued that Moscow's strategic and ideological interests lay in supporting Iraq and criticised Mr Gorbachev for "breaking" the bilateral friendship treaty; and a middle view, which advocated limited appeasement of Iraq to avoid a military conflict and preserve what they saw as Soviet interests in the Middle East.

Western diplomats here emphasise that the Kremlin will be playing a full part in drafting the ultimate peace settlement, but Soviet ideas about what that settlement should be will divide along the same ideological lines as during the war.

Baltic test, page 10

SPECIAL FORCES

Undercover role behind the lines

By Michael Evans

AMERICAN special forces were in Iraq the day the Gulf war broke out, and within two weeks the country was like a "special operations theme park", according to a United States official yesterday. "Those guys were doing a hell of a job," he said.

The British Army's Special Air Service and Royal Marines' Special Boat Squadron were also heavily involved in operations behind enemy lines as soon as the allied air campaign began. Some members of the American special forces units "got in trouble', the official said but he gave no details.

General Norman Schwarzkopf, the allied commander in the Gulf, said on Wednesday that special forces acted as liaison between Arab and English-speaking troops, called in air strikes, handled search-and-rescue missions and did strategic reconnaissance. They also carried out some direct action missions, he said.

It is believed that the American special forces teams, including Delta Force, formed in the image of the British SAS, the Green Berets, Rangers and Seals, equivalent to the British Special Boat Squadron, used helicopters with sound-proofed engine mountings and muffled exhausts to reduce noise.

American special forces use Chinook MH47E troop-carrying helicopters which are specially fitted with an in-flight refuelling capability and guns. The Blackhawk MH60K is another helicopter designed for American special forces. But it was not due to be in service until later this year and may not have played a part in the war.

The successful way in which the Iraqis were fooled into thinking the Americans planned a huge amphibious landing on the coastal strip in front of Kuwait City was dramatically illustrated when allied soldiers arrived in the capital on Thursday.

On the floor of a school assembly hall used as an Iraqi command centre, they found a detailed battle plan with huge red arrows indicating the expected marine assault from the Gulf. The plan also showed that every Iraqi tank and artillery piece, from the desert outskirts of the capital to the seashore, faced the Gulf.

The guns of the Republican Guard were also facing in the wrong direction when American armoured divisions suddenly arrived to their rear in southern Iraq. They were expecting an allied strike from the south through Kuwait.

The Americans did not know they had hit the Republican Guard until they found themselves firing at modern Soviet-made T72 tanks.

The second deception of the allied campaign, involving 250,000 American troops, began in the last 42 hours of the war. The troops moved rapidly through desolate Iraqi desert for the showdown with the Republican Guard. Tens of thousands of vehicles were strung out at least 50 miles, each carefully following the tracks of the one ahead.

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KUWAIT

Liberated city shows gratitude for bold stand by Thatcher

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN KUWAIT CITY

AMID the celebratory rattle of automatic rifles yesterday, Margaret Thatcher enjoyed a brief political resurrection as the grateful residents of Kuwait City joined an emotional formal victory parade.

"Thanks to Mr Bush and Mrs Thatcher," read a big banner outside a Kuwaiti villa. Many Kuwaitis praised the role of the former prime minister, but paid little note to the subsequent, deft handling of the war by her chosen successor.

"For us it was Mrs Thatcher who inspired this magnificent drive to get rid of Saddam. That is why many of us want to pay our thanks to her personally," said Gussani al-Aisaon, aged 24, a student of education. She was driving a black BMW — which she had hidden in an underground garage during the war — accompanied by two other women students, one holding a video camera.

Miss al-Aisaon was one of tens of thousands of Kuwaitis, who took part in a slow procession from the pillaged remains of the national museum to the re-opened American embassy, passing the British embassy. "None of us can ever forget the initial speeches made by Mrs Thatcher after the invasion," she said. "I remember crying and clapping when I heard her speak, how she would not let us be treated like that."

As the flag-waving, horn-blaring procession wound its way past seafront flats, whose rooms on every floor had been fortified by the Iraqis, Westerners were kissed and hugged by those taking part. "Please say thank you to Mrs Thatcher, we think she was even stronger than Bush in wanting to fight," said Bassam al-Sultan, a police lieutenant who was badly tortured by the Iraqis and still bore the marks of the electrodes on both his wrists. "We do not want to be rude to Major, but it was Mrs Thatcher who was there at the beginning. That was the important time. She helped make other people see we should not be sat on by that bastard Saddam," he said.

Effigies of President Saddam Hussein featured prominently in the parade, reflecting the joy of the Kuwaitis at the victory over the Iraqi leader. Some depicted him as a dog, an animal disliked by Arabs, and others as Dracula. Behind a battered car, a Middle Eastern version of a Guy Fawkes effigy, with clothes, helmet and even boots from a dead Iraqi soldier, was dragged along the road under a poster condemning Saddam.

British and American soldiers were mobbed and Arab women visited their posts to offer sweetmeats in silver foil. Journalists were showered with congratulations.

The procession contained an incongruous mix of armoured vehicles and the latest sports coupés driven by delirious teenagers. The wreckage that littered both sides of the route testified to the vindictive and hypocritical side of Iraq's occupying forces.

To add to the symbolism of the occasion, the sun appeared for the first time since the war began, eclipsing the ominous black cloud of smoke from blazing oil wells that has hung over the city.

● **Murder attempt:** Hamid Yooan, a leading Kuwaiti opposition figure, was wounded in an apparent assassination attempt in Kuwait City, the *Washington Post* reported yesterday.

The former member of the Kuwaiti parliament was attacked on Thursday when he opened his door after someone knocked and called his name. Mr Yoan, aged 41, was then shot by a gunman. During his time as a legislator, he had investigated alleged financial abuses by prominent members of Kuwait's ruling al-Sabah family, the paper said. *(Reuter)*

Raging inferno: thick black smoke rising yesterday from a shattered oil refinery south of Kuwait City, days after being set alight by Iraqi troops. Hundreds of oil wells were also set on fire. Kuwait is demanding war reparations for the wanton destruction of its oil industry

MINE CLEARING

British vessels show the way

From JAMIE DETTMER ON BOARD HMS CATTISTOCK

FIVE British mine counter-measure vessels started sweeping Iraqi mines from an approach to a deep water harbour on the Kuwaiti coast yesterday.

Allied military planners are keen to open the harbour at Shuaybah, just south of Kuwait City, from where they can resupply coalition forces and help distribute relief aid.

The men on the vessels, aware that they still have weeks and even months of work ahead of them. Several Royal Fleet Auxiliary ships, including Argus, Britain's primary casualty reception vessel, are also expected to stay in the Gulf for some time.

For the last two weeks, the 625-ton Hunt class vessels have been at the forefront of the war at sea. Led by HMS Herald, the command ship, the Atherstone, Cattistock, Dulverton, Ledbury and Hurworth, have been working in dangerous waters ahead of key coalition warships.

This was emphasised by last Sunday's Iraqi Silkworm missile attack on the allied fleet near Faylakah island. The first vessel to come under threat was Cattistock.

"It was moving quite slowly and very low and at first we thought it was an aircraft," said Sub-Lieutenant Robert Burford, aged 23. "But as it crossed the stern we realised it was a missile. We could see the flame behind it and it was travelling in a very straight line."

Made of glass-reinforced plastic, the Hunts are the most expensive ships to produce per foot in the Royal Navy. They are the maritime equivalent of the Stealth bomber and emit few magnetic signals.

The US Navy acknowledged their superiority by giving them the lead position in sweeping a channel towards Faylakah island for the second world war battleships USS Missouri and USS Wisconsin.

Allied intelligence reports indicated at the beginning of the war that the Iraqis had laid hundreds, and possibly thousands, of mines off Kuwait.

An early coup came with the seizure of Iraqi naval documents during raids by American special forces on Iraqi-held oil rigs. These detailed the whereabouts of some of the minefields, including 200 mines off Ras al-Qulayah.

The allies were also helped by the poor quality of Iraqi mine-laying. "We found one ground mine just thrown overboard in its crate," said Lieutenant-Commander Michael Shrives, Cattistock's captain.

"Sonar conditions in the northern Gulf have been excellent for our work," said Lieutenant-Commander Shrives. "They have been so good that we've been picking up on the sonar nearly anything in the water. We did a dive the other day on a lobster pot and have also examined sunken oil barrels and lumps of concrete."

The vessels have been both sweeping and hunting, but these are painstaking tasks. "We do it in our own time," said Cattistock's captain.

"We won't be pushed outside our capabilities because people want us to be quick. It has to be done properly."

IRAQ

'How brave Saddam defeated the infidel'

Baghdad — Iraq yesterday kept up its claims of victory and boasted of its resistance, despite allied reports that more than forty Iraqi divisions had been smashed.

Iraqi radio said the nation had stood up to more than 100,000 air raids and a total siege, and said Iraq would be remembered by the world for its resistance. The Republican Guard emerged victorious in a great tank battle, said *Al-Thawra*, newspaper of the ruling Baath party.

In contrast, American officials in Riyadh said the Iraqi military's command and control systems had been crippled and that remnants of its forces were still unaware that a ceasefire had been declared on Thursday.

The Iraqi army daily *Al-Qadissiya* said the infidel forces were swept back and defeated by Iraq's special units, and that thousands of American and other allied soldiers had been killed. It charged that Mr Bush was a master-criminal who had masterminded a plot against Iraq because it was the only Arab force to have stood up against imperialism and zionism. *(AFP)*

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Baltic republics test mood of public over independence moves

From ANATOL LIEVEN IN TALLINN

LATVIA and Estonia are tomorrow holding referendums which will test support for independence among the local Russian population. Results from ethnic Latvian and Estonian voters are hardly in doubt; like the Lithuanians last month, they will opt, almost without exception, for independence.

Neither vote will be constitutionally binding. The Estonians have said that future government policy will be based on the results of the referendum; Latvia has described its vote only as an "advisory poll". The Lithuanian government started off that way and then pronounced its poll a constitutional plebiscite when the result proved overwhelmingly in favour of independence.

In Estonia, with a 40 per cent Russian-speaking population, the results may not be clear-cut. The Russian-majority town councils of the northeast have agreed to hold the poll, but have added a second question: "Do you want a sovereign Estonia to remain in the Soviet Union?" Talks with local people in Narva suggest that up to one-third of the 96 per cent Russian population may square their particular political circle and vote both for independence and for remaining in the union.

The decision of the town councils of Narva, Kohtle-Jaehrve, and Sillamaa to include the second question has angered Estonians, who accuse them of deliberately confusing the issue. This confusion, however, may produce a bigger vote for independence than would otherwise be the case.

Few inhabitants of Narva are for independence without qualifications and guarantees for Russian-speakers. On the other hand, few want Narva to break away and be party to the miseries of the Russian Federation, just across the river, even if Estonia does become independent.

In the Estonian capital, Tallinn, the workers who make up the bulk of the Russian population are mainly opposed to independence, while the intelligentsia is too small to make much difference. In the Russian rural areas of the northeast, support for independence is strong, but the population is small.

The Estonian leadership, having thoroughly alarmed the local Russians with talk of strict qualifications for gaining future Estonian citizenship and language laws which, if strictly implemented, could have cost many Russians their jobs, have in recent months been adopting a much more conciliatory policy.

● **Moscow** — The Soviet parliament digressed from the business of endorsing members of the new Cabinet of Ministers to pay tribute to President Gorbachev on the eve of his 60th birthday today (Mary Dejevsky writes). Tass said deputies singled out Mr Gorbachev's "exceptional role in renewing Soviet society", his "great contribution to ending the cold war" and his peace initiatives directed at ending the military action in the Gulf.

Moscow orders a trade shake-up

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet foreign trade establishment, long a hive of bureaucracy and corruption, is to be gradually broken up into separate companies authorised to compete with each other, according to a senior Soviet official.

Igor Faminsky, who heads a research establishment under the state foreign economic commission, said yesterday that the plans had no time scale yet. The disclosure may have been intended to parry hostile foreign comment about the Soviet prime minister's allegations of an economic coup attempt against President Gorbachev. Any positive effect, however, would have been negated by documents from the Russian parliament which drew attention to the confusion prevailing in the foreign trade sector.

The Soviet parliament finally approved a bill which will ban Soviet citizens from spending foreign currency within the frontiers of their own country from April 1. The legislation is intended to prevent the "dollarisation" of the economy caused by failing confidence in the rouble.

On the breadline: Bulgarians queue outside a bakery in Sofia, but for one man, his hands wrapped in socks against the cold, shortages bite deeper than most

150,000 Ukraine miners strike

Kiev — A quarter of the Ukraine's 600,000 miners yesterday obeyed strike leaders' calls for 24-hour industrial action. Elsewhere in the Soviet Union, thousands of miners from Siberia and Kazakhstan were also reported to have joined the action (Robert Seely writes).

The majority of the 250 Donbass pits in eastern Ukraine continued working and Ukraine's government described the strike as a "failure". The Donbass area, covering 155,000 square miles, is strategically vital to the Soviet economy. The region produces almost a quarter of the country's annual coal output.

Yesterday's strike was called after negotiations broke down over demands for more than a doubling in wages to coincide with expected price reforms later this month. An indefinite strike is planned to start on March 11. Pit leaders are also calling for their political demands to be met, including the resignation of President Gorbachev.

Nikolai Volynko, a spokesman, said that most of the pits in the Donetsk region in the Donbass had taken industrial action, although throughout the regions the results have been mixed. "We are continuing with our plans to hold an indefinite strike. Miners who continued to work did so because they were told they would lose 200 roubles if they took action."

Refugees in peril

Colombo — Sri Lankan helicopters dropped leaflets yesterday asking about 10,000 civilian refugees to leave the Madhu Catholic church in the jungle in the North-Western province as the government is launching a military offensive in the area against Tamil separatist guerrillas. They are among a million people forced from their homes by fighting between rebels and government troops since June last year.

Party pledge

Ulan Bator — Budragchaa Dashyondon, aged 45, the new chief of Mongolia's ruling Communist party, has taken power, pledging to deliver his country from deepening economic problems through democracy and free-market reforms. He faces a slumping economy and growing unemployment. *(Reuter)*

Key town falls

Nairobi — Rebels in northern Ethiopia claim to have captured Debre Markos, capital of Gojam province, in their biggest victory since launching an offensive a week ago. They also claim to have killed, wounded or taken captive more than 1,300 government troops. *(Reuter)*

Vampire victims

Lima — Six people bitten by vampire bats died of rabies this month in an Amazon jungle region bordering Ecuador. The Peruvian health ministry said the outbreak was first detected on February 11 in a jungle region 500 miles north of Lima. Inhabitants of the area are mainly members of the Aguaruna-Huambisa Indian tribe. *(AP)*

Tirana awaits Mother Teresa

From RICHARD BASSETT IN TIRANA

MOTHER Teresa arrives in Albania today to open a charitable house, as calm returns to the country and the authorities show signs of relaxing their military grip.

The 80-year-old missionary, whose parents were Albanian, will bring with her four nuns who will live in a reopened Catholic house in Tirana. Religion has only recently been permitted in Albania, which in 1967 declared itself to be the world's first atheist state. More than 10 per cent of Albanians are Catholic, the rest are mostly Muslim.

After demonstrations last December, the code prohibiting religious activity was reformed and Mass celebrated for the first time in decades.

A lorry carrying rosaries, crucifixes and bibles, all rare in Albania, is expected to arrive at the weekend. President Alia clearly hopes that Mother Teresa's visit will indirectly bolster his position and distract Albanians from their growing frustration with the ruling Communist party.

Mother Teresa's arrival coincides with the onset of Ramadan, and Tirana's Muslim population is now able to visit the reopened mosque. All the religious activity accompanies a mood of increasing calm, and yesterday, for the first time in a week, no shots were heard in Tirana at night. The leadership clearly hopes that the next few weeks will be tranquil so that elections scheduled for March 31 can take place.

● **BRINDISI:** A fishing boat carrying 142 Albanian refugees reached Italy safely yesterday, a day after Albanian coastal patrols fired on another ship and killed a man aged 33, authorities said. *(AP)*

Woman guilty of lover's murder

From JOHN PHILLIPS IN PARIS

LAWYERS pledged to appeal yesterday after a French court found a woman, aged 60, guilty on charges of shooting her lover and chopping up his body with an electric concrete slicer. She was sentenced to a 20-year prison term at the end of a sensational trial.

After ten hours of deliberations on Thursday, the jury at the court in the eastern city of Nancy returned a guilty verdict against Simone Weber on the charge that she carried out the bizarre murder of Bernard Hettier. The prosecution had asked for a life sentence, but the judge apparently took into account her long spell in prison awaiting trial.

The jury acquitted Weber on charges that she also fatally poisoned her husband in 1980. Weber was absent from the court when the verdict was announced. She had been taken ill a short time before and had been taken to hospital.

The sensational trial has provided the main diversion from the Gulf war in France amid accusations by the defence that it had turned into a farce and a witch-hunt.

M Hettier disappeared on June 22, 1985, after an alleged quarrel with Weber. The prosecution charged that Weber shot and killed her lover with a single bullet fired into his head. Then she chopped up his body with an electric concrete slicer and dumped his torso in the River Marne, the court heard.

Prosecutors said she stashed her lover's limbs into black rubbish bags and left them on the pavement outside her home where they were collected by dustmen.

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Execution without trial brought back by Bangkok junta

By Neil Kelly in Bangkok and Our Foreign Staff

THE military leaders who seized power in Thailand a week ago last night turned the political clock back a generation by taking summary powers to execute without trial anybody suspected of serious crimes.

The offences have not been specified but General Sunthorn Kongsompong, the supreme commander, who led the coup against the elected government, said absolute powers were needed because "the opposition" had hired foreigners to sabotage the new administration and harm its leaders. Asked for more details about the foreigners, he told Thai journalists: "Don't let me reveal anything more." No evidence of direct foreign interference in political life has been forthcoming.

Several Western nations condemned the coup, with America suspending all aid except money for drugs suppression. Japan joined in the condemnation, and will not consider giving Thailand any new loans or grants until the political situation is clearer. The new Thai leaders were angered by renewed demands by America and Australia for the immediate release of General Chatichai Choonhavan, the deposed prime minister.

Full details have not yet been disclosed of the interim constitution, which was delivered last night to the junta with King Bhumibol's seal of approval. But the man who drafted it, Meechai Ruechupan, a constitutional expert and former cabinet minister, said it contained a provision similar to a draconian measure used by a former military dictator, Field-Marshal Sarit Dhanarajata, 30 years ago. Sarit, who is now excoriated as a libertine, also plundered the nation's wealth and personally executed suspects. Mention of that law still frightens older Thais but Mr Meechai said it was again needed.

The king called for changes in the original draft of the provisional constitution earlier this week, but a military spokesman said none of the amendments to the 32-article document was fundamental.

A foreign ministry spokesman said the king's alterations could only benefit Thailand. "It shows that the military cannot do everything they want. The king is taking a very close look at everything. That reflects well on the country."

Now the interim constitution is in place, the military leaders are empowered to appoint a 300-member parliament and a government. The parliament must draft a permanent constitution within six months. Elections will be held by the end of the year. Meanwhile, the men in power say that martial law will remain in force until the elections and perhaps longer.

Leading academics, civil servants and some politicians have already expressed fears that the military might stall on handing back power to civilians. Nearly 100 academics signed an open letter on Thursday urging the National Peacekeeping Council — the junta's official name — to lift martial law and restore democracy as soon as possible. The letter also warned the military that absolute power could easily lead to abuse of power.

General Chatichai, a former cavalry commander and diplomat, has been in military custody since he was taken off a plane at gunpoint last Saturday by air force officers as he was about to fly north for an audience with the king.

The Nation newspaper yesterday quoted informed sources as saying his assets would be frozen, pending an investigation into possible corrupt dealings. The report was the first indication that General Chatichai might face retribution for his rule, which oversaw a golden period in Thai economic development but soured as allegations of corruption mounted. Spokesmen for the junta and for the commission it set up to investigate alleged corruption could not confirm the report.

The junta said earlier that General Chatichai was weighing a choice of exile abroad — most likely in Switzerland, where he has a home — or a quiet retirement in Thailand. Later, it said that his fate would be left to the interim government. The assets of 22 other former cabinet ministers and politicians have been frozen on the junta's orders.

Painful memories: Marlon Brando weeping in court as he recounts the night his son, Christian, killed Dag Drollet, a friend of his daughter's at his house near Santa Monica, California. Christian was imprisoned for ten years on Thursday

US tabloid looks to Maxwell rescue

From Charles Bremner
in New York

AFTER a four-month strike marked by violence and recrimination, the owners and unions of the New York *Daily News* have abandoned their effort to settle and turned to Robert Maxwell as the only possible saviour of the venerable New York tabloid.

The Tribune group of Chicago, the owners, said the newspaper, until recently the biggest-selling in America, would close on March 20 if a buyer were not found. Mr Maxwell appeared on the scene on Wednesday as the only other potential buyer. Mortimer Zuckerman, the property developer and publisher, was reported to have backed out of talks.

Any buyer will have to assume financial obligations so substantial that most observers in New York believe the paper has little chance of surviving. These include lifetime job guarantees to the printers' union, worth about $100 million (£52 million), and heavy pension and severance pay liabilities.

Leonard Stern, owner of *Village Voice*, said of Mr Maxwell, who has been looking for a US newspaper for years: "He ain't much of a hope. I can't see why anyone would want to buy it in the shape it's in."

Zia woos rivals for a majority

From Christopher Thomas
in Dhaka

BANGLADESH'S acting president, Shahabuddin Ahmed, announced last night that no party was in a position to form a government after the inconclusive general election.

The country now faces months of uncertainty and political turmoil before a new administration can take over, threatening the fragile democracy after Wednesday's election was described by British parliamentary observers in a statement yesterday as "exemplary, free and fair".

Begum Khalida Zia, the leader of the right-of-centre Bangladesh Nationalist Party, which captured the single largest number of seats, is bargaining with rivals to give it a parliamentary majority. But even if she succeeds, the country faces another poll — to elect a president — before a new administration can take over.

Begum Zia made it clear yesterday that she proposes to continue the controversial presidential system, despite complaints that it lends itself to dictatorship. She argued that she would, in any case, be unable to muster the necessary two-thirds majority in parliament for a constitutional change.

SYDNEY NOTEBOOK by Robert Cockburn

Lesbian bike gang delivers Nora and order

Nora Savona makes an awesome, or intimidating sight — depending on your point of view — straddled across her Harley Davidson in black leather, boots and tight white jeans.

Thanks to her and the Dykes on Bikes, the men of the colourful Paddington district of Sydney can walk the streets in safety tonight. After the murders of five homosexual men and countless attacks by "gay bashers", the Dykes, otherwise known as the Vixen Motor Cycle Club, started regular weekend patrols in and around Oxford Street.

"The situation was getting out of control," said Ms Savona, the Dykes' PR officer. "I was sick of seeing my gay male friends getting beaten up."

The police gave their blessing, mainly because they have never been inclined to take victims seriously. The Dykes say they are not vigilantes. Just the sight of them is felt to be a deterrent. "Attackers are typically boarding school boys out to kill a pooftah," Nora's partner, Carole Skaf, says. "We just want to let them know who's boss."

Not only deranged young heterosexuals are being stopped from beating their own masculinity into shape. The tough red-blooded ego of the Aussie male is under attack from all directions this week. Gregory Manusu, a sheep farmer in the classic mould, is milking his sheep — an image so horrifying to most of the farmers that they are letting an estimated $Aus6 million (£2.5 million) go to waste.

With a slump in world demand for Australian wool and lamb, milking is all that stands between them and disaster. Yet farmers continue to shoot their unwanted flocks, while orders for fetta cheese are turned down. The Tavella sheep milk cheese factory in New South Wales is searching for another ten farmers willing to follow Mr Manusu's example.

But while Australia imports sheep cheese worth more than $Aus8 million a year, agricultural researchers say farmers still regard milking as some cruel joke. Most angry is the Greek community here which sees its old homeland's traditional fetta industry doomed if they cotton on.

An American, Dr Richard Marrs, has dealt the body blow to male pride. He says research shows Australian sperm is the most defective on Earth. Australia has the highest incidence of sperm factor disorders, his research shows. This week, he speculated on a flaw in the evolution of the population, or something to do with the environment. The Epworth hospital infertility centre in Melbourne confirms that defective sperm accounts for one-third of all the couples who decide to seek *in-vitro* fertilisation.

The march on male institutions goes on. Samantha O'Brien has just broken down the last bastion of male dominated sport, winning the first New South Wales iron lady contest. Iron men are the traditional bronzed gods who swim, surf, and paddle their way through endurance contests when they are not rescuing surfers in distress.

Samantha, a lifesaver aged 20, is the bronzed goddess who ended the sexual taboo. Her next goal is to compete in Australia's national championship, which still bars females.

To help the old Australian male "mutate" into new sensitive men, punk writer Ignatius Jones has written a guide called *True Hip*. But he reveals new man "is basically the same old crass sensitive hoon who has managed to convince womanhood at large that he is suave, witty, sophisticated, and heterosexual — a combination which until a few years ago was considered highly unlikely in an Australian context".

But the cause of women is facing unexpected setbacks. *Big Beautiful Women*, a magazine to show how size 16 and upwards can be fashionable too, has closed after publishing only seven issues.

Despite reaching 28,000 devoted readers in its first month, the plug was effectively pulled by frightened advertisers.

Someone forgot to tell them that the iron women and Dykes on Bikes are on their way.

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36

Both sides of the truth

Clifford Longley

A dash into the danger zone and an equally rapid retreat to partial cover marked the first close encounter this week between Dr George Carey, the Archbishop of Canterbury-elect, and some of the more entrenched and embittered forces in the Church of England. He blundered, and promptly realised it. But did he realise it enough?

There was once a concert pianist who maintained that not until the first mistake – and the immediate surge of adrenalin – did a performance really come alight. So perhaps the scales and arpeggios will ripple from Dr Carey's keyboard all the better. But his more apprehensive listeners will worry that he started not just with a wrong note, but in the wrong key.

He had said, in an interview with the *Reader's Digest* given more than three months ago, that "the idea that only a male can represent Christ at the altar is a most serious heresy". Heresy is the "h-word" of Christianity, a theological declaration of war. In his retraction on Wednesday, Dr Carey substituted "fundamental theological error", feeling no doubt that that is the sort of thing academic churchmen say about each other all the time, with no offence. But it is still not the sort of thing archbishops of Canterbury, elect or not, are expected to announce about approximately one quarter of their own church, nor even, these days, the sort of thing they say about the Pope or the Patriarch of Constantinople.

The "heresy" or fundamental error he was referring to, Dr Carey explained in his elucidation, consisted in "making the maleness of Christ more significant than his humanity". In other words, women should be qualified for ordination as priests because they were human, not disqualified because they were female. That is a respectable opinion, unanimously held in the free churches already and ever more widely spreading in the Roman Catholic Church, but it is not yet a sure and certain truth in the Church of England. It may be true, but only quite recently has anybody thought so.

As conceived by at least the last three archbishops of Canterbury, the job of the Primate of All England and Primate of the Anglican Communion is essentially the successful management of change, including the change involved in allowing women priests. That requires keeping a measured distance from theological controversy, so that neither side feels alienated and unchurched.

Dr Carey, by his original remark and no less by his amendment to it, has made many Anglicans feel very unchurched indeed. He achieved almost the same effect when he told some clergy opposed to women priests in the diocese of Bath and Wells that they ought to consider whether they had a future in the Church of England after it ordained women.

The implications for his period in office at Lambeth Palace are serious, not so much because he is right or wrong but because he is putting at risk his leadership, and hence all the fine things he hopes to do as *leader*. It would be easy indeed for him to be dragged into a running battle over the ordination of women and its consequences, leaving no space for anything else.

What else, exactly? At the start of his *Reader's Digest* interview he described the Church of England as an "elderly lady who mutters away to herself in a corner, ignored most of the time ..." The greatest challenge facing the church was to "present the Christian faith simply, so that people can understand it and follow it". But if this "granny", as he called the church, is to be so obsessed with quarrelling about the family inheritance with her other elderly relatives, grumbling toothlessly about their "heresy" and suchlike, she will be ignored all of the time, poor dear.

Dr Carey's temptation may well be to bump off the relatives as fast as possible, to end the quarrel that way. Or if he cannot bring them to see the "fundamental error" of their ways, he will try to squeeze them out. But most of them will not go willingly. Some will be prepared to inflict almost any amount of damage on the church in the process, telling themselves that if they lose it will not be "the church" any more and its fate will hardly matter.

For they believe, rather more literally than Dr Carey believes the opposite, that the ordination of women *is* heresy, or close to it.

> ‘If ‘granny’, as he called the church, is to be obsessed with quarrelling about the family inheritance, she will be ignored’

The origin and nature of heresy in the church has been much debated. The classical theory is that heresy is not so much plain error, as the result of over-emphasis on one side of a two-sided truth – that Jesus Christ was true God and true man, for instance. Heresy often starts when "and" tends to become "or" in such apparent paradoxes, for instance the classic heresies that Christ was more God than man (Docetism), or more man than God (Arianism). (There is no intended significance here in the use of "man"). Heretics do not like paradoxes, and insist on resolving them.

Dr Carey has explained that the error he was attacking lay "in making the maleness of Christ more significant than his humanity", whereas his contention is that Christ's maleness is not, in this respect, significant at all. "It is as human *rather than* as male that he identifies with and saves both men and women." If Christ's gender does not matter, then neither does the gender of the priesthood. In that case it would not matter if there were no women priests. But clearly he thinks it does matter.

The error he describes, which fits well into this classical pattern of heresy, is the stressing of one side of a two-sided truth, the emphasis on Christ's maleness to the detriment of his humanity. To correct it, however, he forces a choice between Christ's maleness *or* his humanity, as if only one aspect could be significant and the trick is to know which. It must be an "either/or", and cannot be an "and/both". But is this not, just as much, in the classic pattern of heresy? Dr Carey may have started the very debate he thought he had ruled out.

More wars are likely to spring from the bitter legacy of the Gulf conflict, writes Mary Kaldor

A time for mourning, not rejoicing

Relief that the Gulf war has ended is overshadowed, however, by the tragedy of the conflict. The war will have left a legacy of bitterness in the Third World that will last for decades. This legacy may well mark the beginning of a long-term north-south confrontation in which more wars, modelled on the Gulf conflict, take place.

The closest parallel to this war is the "scramble for colonies" that took place in the late 19th century, when Zulus, Matabeles or dervishes were mown down by machine-gun fire. In the battle of Omdurman in Sudan, 49 Europeans and 11,000 dervishes were killed. In this war the ratio is even more marked – 128 allied casualties (mostly self-inflicted) as against about 100,000 Iraqi military casualties. And this battle took place by remote control. Neither we, in front of televisions, nor the pilots who dropped the bombs have any direct experience of the consequences of Western actions. What is more, many of the Iraqi soldiers who died were also the victims of Saddam Hussein, being young, poor, and often unwilling conscripts.

The figures conceal the true extent of the casualties. The Gulf war was the longest sustained bombing campaign in history. Many people, especially children, have died and will die from disease, hunger, cold or lack of medical attention as a result of the destruction of services in Iraq. Millions more already facing famine, especially in Africa, will have been affected by the rise in oil prices, and the reluctance to give aid to countries where governments supported Saddam.

A mood of triumph seems to have swept the West. This has been a good war for the media, the defence experts, politicians, arms manufacturers, and for those who will get contracts to rebuild Kuwait and Iraq. The West behaved as though Iraq was a superpower, and America had more troops in Saudi Arabia than it had in Europe at the height of the Cold War. Iraq is a small, Third World country, apparently incapable of operating much of the expensive technology provided by its industrialised suppliers. The captured Iraqi soldiers had holes in their shoes.

The triumph of the West is matched by the anger, frustration and humiliation experienced by much of the Arab and the Third World. The Gulf war will have made Middle East problems harder to solve. It represents a setback for the Palestinians, and democracy seems no closer in Kuwait and Iraq. The Emir of Kuwait has said he will impose martial law for three months, even though, according to the Kuwaiti constitution, martial law can only be declared by parliament (suspended since 1986). And who knows what will happen in Iraq? Will Saddam be overthrown? Can the opposition groups form a united coalition? Or will Iraqi society lapse into warring factions, as in Lebanon?

The Gulf war has polarised opinion throughout the Third World. Undoubtedly, one consequence will be the rise of nationalism and fundamentalism. This, in turn, is likely to lead to a new military build-up in Third World countries, creating the conditions for future Saddams and future wars.

Can anything be done to prevent a new north-south divide? It is doubtful whether Western governments can bring about a reconciliation, at least in the near future. Proposals for a Middle East security system or for a conference to resolve the Palestinian question, which is central if other problems in the region are to be solved, must be left to the countries of the region.

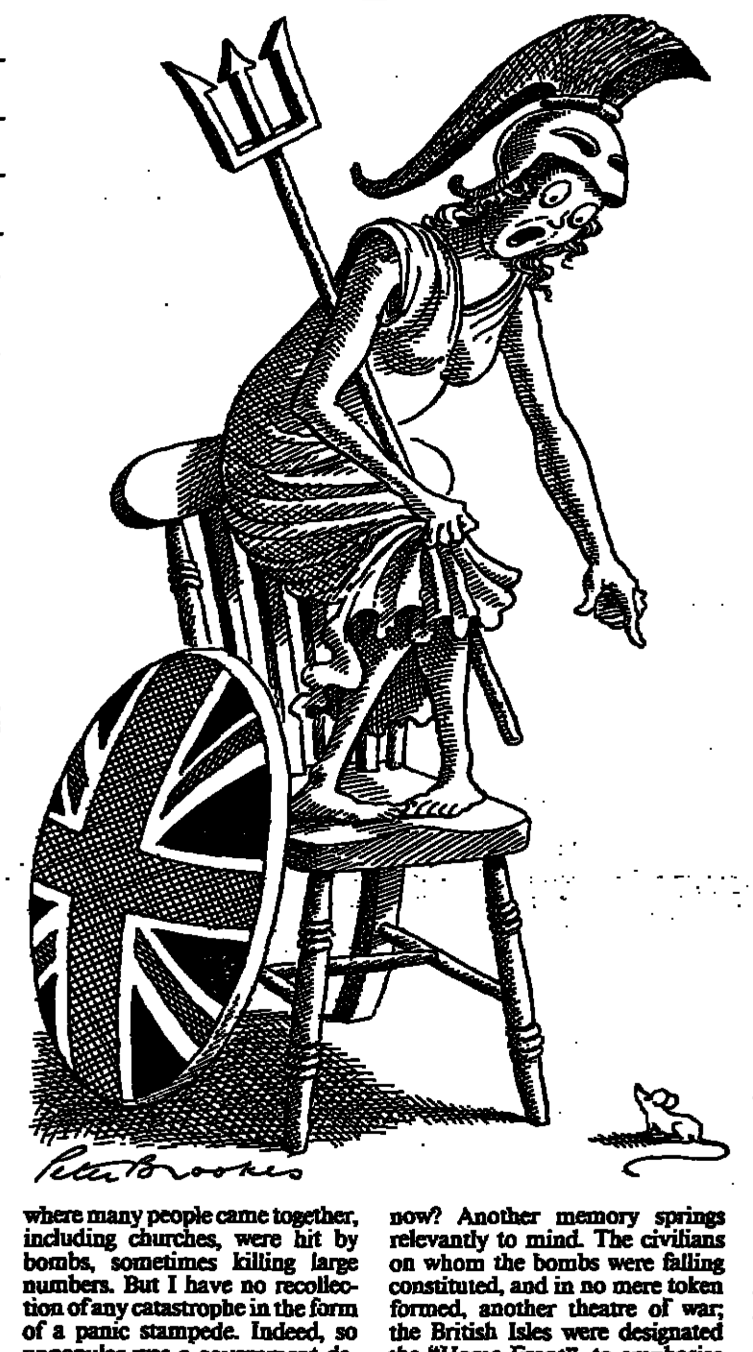
There may be a role for non-governmental organisations. Peace, green, human rights, and women's groups, that are less tainted by the war, could engage in efforts to reconcile Christians and Muslims, Europeans and Arabs, north and south, both here in Europe and in the Middle East.

The hopes generated by the 1989 revolutions in Eastern Europe need to be recaptured. The real tragedy of this war is that the world had a chance to construct more peaceful, cooperative ways of solving international problems; a chance to reduce military spending and to try to address the problems of poverty and the environment. We had a chance to liberate Kuwait through the pressure of sanctions and international public opinion. Instead, the military momentum of the last six months seems to have made war acceptable again, even popular.

Mary Kaldor is author of The Imaginary War: Understanding the East-West Conflict, *recently published by Blackwell.*

Stiffen the upper lip

Bernard Levin says that years of peace have left most Britons with little understanding of how to deal with threats to their life at home



Somewhat to my surprise, I feel obliged to return to the subject of my column published on February 26, in which I combined two themes. The first of them concerned the striking difference between the civilian attitudes to what was happening in the Gulf in these recent days and those, which I remembered from my childhood, which were felt and expressed during the second world war. The other was a discussion, obviously linked to the first, of the measures, as unnecessary as they were hysterical, which were taken (with, as far as I could see, general approval) in the wake of the Victoria station bomb.

I cannot remember any previous occasion on which my readers have written to me with unanimous agreement. Significantly, they did not just commend my thoughts on the subject as similar to their own; in very many of the letters there was an expression of gratitude. Now for a columnist to be thanked is an event sufficiently unusual to warrant examination. In this case the letters themselves provided the clue. The writers were thanking me for strengthening them amid what they saw as a tragic and shocking decline in that indefinable, but essential, quality required in any conflict: morale. Again and again the word "wimps" occurred in their letters, equally distributed between British Rail and those who deplored (except for religious or pacifist reasons) the allies' intention of pressing the war home by all legitimate means.

The reason for my correspondents' feelings stemmed from the same source as my original article: they had lived through the second world war, and could remember at first hand the all-encompassing danger from bombs and the general insouciance with which they were regarded, as well as the resolve on both sides to use any degree of force or fire power on any enemy target – an enemy target being any place, whether a barracks or an orphanage, in which members of the enemy nation, soldier or civilian, might be found. (I was somewhat too sweeping in my claim that there were practically no voices raised against the policy of saturation bombing; Max Hastings sent me a copy of his book *Bomber Command*, which shifted the perspective, not least because it reminded me of that remarkable man Richard Stokes, MP, a kind of saner Tam Dalyell.)

Let us look at the Victoria station bomb first. The gangsters who planted it naturally wanted to kill as many people as possible, and must have been dismayed at the small number of casualties it caused (while the Paddington one hurt nobody). But murder, however gratifyingly numerous its victims, was not their principal aim. What they wanted was chaos, and they not only achieved their goal with a satisfying completeness, they are still getting it almost daily with telephone calls.

For readers who have no first-hand recollections of the second world war, let me describe another practice from those times. When the air raid sirens sounded, an illuminated sign would be switched on in places of entertainment; it announced that a bombing raid was expected, and calmly added that those patrons who wished to leave were requested to do so without disturbing those who did not. The point I am making is not that the people were brave then and are cowardly now, but that the long years of peace have contributed to a lamentable loss of balance; we cannot see the haystack of normality and safety because we are so wedded to finding the needle of a chance injury. After all, in the second world war many places where many people came together, including churches, were hit by bombs, sometimes killing large numbers. But I have no recollection of any catastrophe in the form of a panic stampede. Indeed, so unpopular was a government decree ordering the closing of theatres that it did not last long: the Windmill theatre (alas for history, it is now a porn shop) actually refused to comply, and for many years after the war its proudest boast, blazoned on its frontage, was "We never closed!"

Why, then, do we close instantly now? Another memory springs relevantly to mind. The civilians on whom the bombs were falling constituted, and in no mere token formed, another theatre of war; the British Isles were designated the "Home Front", to emphasise the truth that there were not two species – soldiers and civilians – but only one, with different duties and for that matter different uniforms, but equally essential. Now, however, though assuredly British troops in the Gulf were admired, I think there was something of a division between the two; the sense of one nation under arms was missing, and I do not believe that that was because the enemy was unable to attack the Home Front directly.

Another subject discussed in the unsolicited letters I received was the modern invention of "counselling"; my correspondents were contemptuous of the enormous quantities of cotton wool now offered free to those who, say, have been in a terrorist attack, though not themselves even injured.

Closely parallel are the recent claims by "experts" that those civilians trapped in Iraq when the war broke out, and who for a week or two were sent as hostages to military installations, would need long and careful psychiatric treatment for this traumatic experience. So they will if the experts get to them first, though the truth is that any sensible man or woman in a war – or in the London traffic, for that matter – is in danger of death a hundred times a day.

Is there no one in the generation younger than mine who shares my outrage that it is now possible to get public money from the courts for suffering "stress" at the scene of a disaster – not for receiving injury but simply observing it? And will he or she go the next mile with me, and back me in arguing that even damages for real injury should be compensated commensurately with the wound, so that someone confined to a wheelchair would be reimbursed for the lost years of activity but that a victim with a broken leg which heals completely should get only the cost of missed wages and medical expenses?

We have fallen asleep on our laurels. I do not, of course, believe that the British Isles will ever again suffer direct attack, and I think it very unlikely that we shall even need to participate in a coalition war such as the one that has just finished. Good; entirely good. But the crucial lesson for time of peace, so grimly learned in the second world war, has apparently been jettisoned; if it had not been, we would count ourselves lucky that we were not involved in a war which knew no mercy, and marvel at those who thought that the Gulf war was one such. And we would rise in revolt when the entire railway network is stopped because of a couple of loud bangs.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

A report into the police service has just been published by the Audit Commission. In summary, it questions efficiency and criticises management structure. Its conclusions are intuitively correct, so I tried to follow the argument by which they had been reached. I was soon lost in a maze of conceptual reasoning, management consultants' lingo, and personnel-speak. "Is this", I wondered, "the only way we can approach such enquiries?"

I thought back to a frustrating morning spent on the telephone, after encountering a road accident the night before, on my way to the railway station. I had been first on the scene, so had called the emergency services and given what help I could until ambulance and police arrived, before continuing my journey. "I'll ring the police tomorrow," I thought, "to find out how the injured are."

The delay made me hours late in arriving at London. Still, I was almost home. I just needed to nip over the Euston Road to the cash machine, then down to the underground – if, that is, I hadn't missed the last train.

If you stand with your back to Barclays Bank, and look across the Euston Road, you can, with one sweep of the eye, survey the clock towers of St Pancras and King's Cross stations. King's Cross told me that I had missed the underground by ten minutes. St Pancras had more encouraging news: if I hurried, I might just make it. I did.

When, next morning, I telephoned the police station nearest to the accident where I had helped out, there proved to be no practical way that a member of the public could identify, let alone speak to, the officers who had dealt with the incident. Nobody seemed to know what had happened, nor who would know. No single officer had followed the affair through. The whole thing had splintered into a disarray of partial responsibilities.

My own audit commission report would approach its task rather differently. It would be a report not on "policing in England and Wales" nor even on "the allocation of officers' responsibilities after road traffic accidents". What I want is a report on why this particular member of the public was unable, on that particular morning, easily to discover news of that accident.

Let us, in other words, start from the micro rather than the macro picture. We do not need to stop there. The enquiry may spread outwards and upwards. It may conclude by confronting the divergence between the way an organisation sees its work and the way customers encounter what it does. But let our enquiry start from a single flash snapshot of a single detail – something that went wrong – and let that flash illuminate, from the bottom up, the ranks above. Many such flash reports will follow. I shall read with interest the report of the Royal Commission into "why on December 15, 1990 the time on the clock tower at St Pancras did not tally with the time on the clock tower at King's Cross." Whose responsibility was that. If nobody's, why? If somebody's, has he been disciplined? If the clocks are faulty beyond repair, why? And so on.

Witnesses would be called, starting with me. Clerks, timekeepers, clockmakers and junior managers would give evidence. Each, perhaps, would blame somebody else. In that case, each somebody else would be summoned. And, gradually, from that first freeze-frame flash, centring upon that single, verifiable error, light would spread outwards, illuminating error elsewhere.

A comprehensive picture would be constructed of an entire organisation at a single moment in time: the moment when the time at St Pancras was different from the time at King's Cross.

I do not presume to know the conclusion. The enquiry might well end by blaming not the management of British Rail at all, but the transport minister, for failing to allow them enough money to mend their clocks. It may end with a disquisition on the "financing and management structure of British Rail". It may end by censuring a trade-union-dominated work ethos in which nobody can properly be called to account for his failures.

Let it end, if it must, with a grand and general statement. But let it start with something we can see: the clocks. Then we shall be more likely to believe, and understand.

Crumbling at the foundation

As Mrs Thatcher prepares to fly to Washington next week, the planned research foundation named after her has run into trouble. The expected flood of donations from wealthy well-wishers has not materialised and Mrs Thatcher's aides are now looking to her American admirers to stump up the £15 million which her supporters believe is necessary to finance the project.

On Thursday, just a hundred poignant days after she left office, she will receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom from George Bush at the White House, the highest civilian award of the United States government. The next day Mrs Thatcher will deliver a keynote speech on world affairs – an occasion which close colleagues hope will signal the end of her self-imposed purdah and begin the reassertion of her role as an international statesman, which supporters believe is necessary if the foundation is to succeed.

To date, only Lord Hanson and Lord McAlpine, who has also loaned the former prime minister a Westminster office, are believed to have pledged sizeable donations. Privately, Conservative Central Office is relieved at the apparent failure, fearing that the foundation could have diverted funds it needs for a general election. A Central Office employee will be on hand discreetly to ensure that funds from American Tory sympathisers are not wholly diverted to the foundation.

But Mrs Thatcher still has wealthy supporters prepared to dip their hands in their pockets. The five-storey terraced house in Chester Square, Belgravia, which she will move into next month, has now been loaned to her for the rest of her lifetime by the Barclay brothers.

THE TIMES DIARY

Coining it

The government and the Royal Mint are contemplating striking a special £5 coin to commemorate the Gulf war. The suggestion has the enthusiastic support of Peter Gummer, chairman of Shandwick, the country's largest public relations company, which has been advising the Foreign Office on media relations during the war. "It is nothing to do with our work for the government. I was simply trying to think of ways of helping the families of soldiers who had died in the war, and the proceeds from such a coin could be placed in a fund for them," says Gummer. A spokesman for the Treasury, which will take the decision, said it was too early to give an answer, but Gummer remains hopeful. After all, a commemorative coin was struck for the Battle of Waterloo. It is surely high time for another.

From the source

With Welshmen everywhere celebrating St David's day, the news came that St David's College, Lampeter, the oldest degree-awarding body in England and Wales after Oxford and Cambridge, has appointed a new chaplain who lists English as only his third language. Welsh features even lower on the Rev Mounes Farah's list of languages. As a Palestinian, his first language is Arabic and the second is Hebrew.

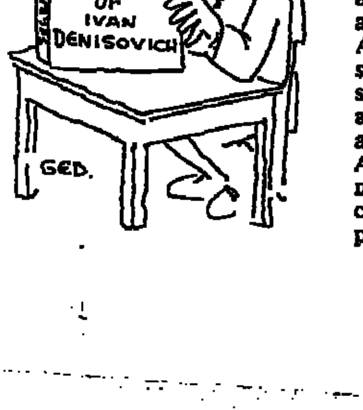
Farah's appointment is the latest in a tradition of "unusual" chaplains, says Lord Morris of Castle Morris, the college principal. Recent incumbents have included Brother Raphael, an Anglican-Franciscan who spent his time "hitch-hiking around ministering to the hippies who so colourfully festoon the Cambrian mountains" and the Rev Christine Bonneywell, a Church of Wales deacon, "who spoke fluent Welsh, smoked like a furnace and clucked her charges into godliness like a saintly hen".

Morris concedes that the new chaplain, a Maronite Christian, is "even more unorthodox" but adds: "There is one impeccable point in his pedigree. He was born and brought up in Nazareth." No one on the interviewing panel dared to ask what his Welsh is like.

Consecutive sentence

Alexander Solzhenitsyn has updated *A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, his first novel, in time for a new translation. For the past 18 months Solzhenitsyn has been working on his original text in his Vermont retreat, polishing it with what Harvill, the publisher, describes as "very light" changes.

Solzhenitsyn's final text is complemented by a new translation by Harry Willetts, the Soviet scholar, who has been working closely with the Russian novelist over the nuances of translating particular words and phrases of Gulag camp slang. "This is the first worthy translation into English and the one I have approved," says Solzhenitsyn. His first version of the novel detailing life in a prison camp first appeared in *Novy Mir*, the literary magazine, and was rushed into print in the West during the Khrushchev thaw of 1962. "The book came out in a such a rush that translators were not able to give a final polish to work. Solzhenitsyn has not been satisfied with the result ever since," says the publisher.


30 years in the Translation OF IVAN DENISOVICH
GED.

Battle checked

The prospect of an unseemly court battle between Labour and Tory MPs was averted yesterday when Gordon Brown wrote a cheque for arrears on the service charge at his south London flat. Brown paid the bill following threats to take the shadow trade and industry secretary to court by some of the other 10 Tory and Labour MPs who own flats in the same south London Kennington block.

The MPs bought the freehold due to dissatisfaction with the standards of maintenance and set up their own management company, chaired by Jim Lester, the Tory MP. Maria Fyfe, the Labour MP, is the secretary.

Before Christmas, Brown wrote to the management company again objecting about the service and has not paid the charge since. Another MP resident in the block says: "Whether you agree with the standard of service or not we are all shareholders in the company and we have to abide by the rules." Aides of Brown say that the man many tip as a future Labour chancellor of the exchequer simply forgot to pay.

PEACE AIMS IN THE GULF

After the relief, the reckoning. The existing United Nations Security Council resolutions are no longer sufficient to legitimise the presence of foreign forces in Iraq. A new resolution has been proposed by the Americans which would set out the terms for a ceasefire. Assuming that this resolution is passed, however, longer-term questions will remain. Allied forces are in Kuwait at the Emir's invitation. They entered Iraq in pursuit of an enemy. Under what conditions should they be withdrawn, and who might replace them?

These questions must be tackled immediately by elated politicians and tired generals. They must distinguish between aims which are absolute and aims which are desirable but do not justify a resumption of hostilities. This distinction is important. In the first category is an explicit recognition by Iraq of Kuwait's inviolability; the return of Kuwaiti assets; access for the Red Cross to allied prisoners and civilian hostages, and then their prompt return; the denial to Iraq of weapons of mass destruction; and the UN's right to monitor the peace. All this could be consolidated in the new security council resolution.

In the second category come the replacement of Saddam Hussein by a more acceptable leader, and the limitation of Iraqi armed forces to a size sufficient for defensive purposes. These could be followed by the lifting of sanctions and the eventual restoration of diplomatic relations. Only then could aid to Iraq be considered.

Much depends on the fate of Saddam himself, still the subject of rumour and speculation. The allies must plan for the worst case: the survival in power of a dictator who has proved his resilience for over a decade. Hence the importance of setting up a war crimes tribunal covering Iraqi activities in Kuwait, preferably under UN supervision, irrespective of whether Saddam can be brought before it. For as long as Iraqi torturers face trial, the world would not forget their master in Baghdad. The legal mechanism for a war crimes tribunal should be created in the security council resolution now under discussion in New York.

Beyond the terms for an armistice, a second resolution will be needed to provide for the presence of a peace-keeping force. Such a force, whether consisting of Syrians, Saudis and Egyptians or of UN "blue berets", is an urgent desideratum to replace the withdrawing allied contingents. If the Arab coalition states are prepared to create such a force, so much the better. If Saddam remains in power, the Western allies will probably have to guarantee its safety, as well as that of Kuwait itself.

How long such a force should remain is another matter. "Honest brokers for peace" tend to perpetuate conflict as they relieve the opposing parties of the need to settle differences. When the Iraqis have a leader with whom Kuwaitis can negotiate, the UN or Arab peace-keepers would have done their job and should leave. Any force interposed between Kuwait and Iraq must be provisional, not permanent.

Kuwait will always be too weak to defend itself, and the perpetuation of the close working alliance with Saudi Arabia which has been forged by the conflict should be a priority for the restored government. Kuwait does not wish to become a Saudi province any more than an Iraqi one, but the Emir should never again let himself become as isolated as he was when Iraq invaded.

Saudi Arabia and the smaller Gulf states will all need to review their defences. Saddam would have made the mobilisation of the allied expeditionary force far more difficult if he had not stopped at Kuwait but had taken the Saudi ports and airfields too. Not only a closer alliance, perhaps with other pro-Western Arab states such as Egypt, but a more effective deterrent will be needed for the future. The anti-Iraq nations of the Gulf are both rich enough and populous enough to defend themselves. The West cannot be expected to defend the oil dynasties forever.

MR KINNOCK'S GOOD WAR

Neil Kinnock was never going to win much from the Gulf war. Credit for a victory would go to the government. What he had to avoid was losing on the domestic political front. In this war aim, he has succeeded well.

His predecessor's handling of the 1982 Falklands conflict is branded in the collective memory of the Labour party. After a robust early speech, Michael Foot shillied and shallied, let himself be eclipsed by his left wing, and then rejected the offer of government briefings on the grounds that he wanted to be free to criticise ministers. Mr Kinnock avoided such obvious traps. He understood that voters wanted him to support the war without hesitation. Most of all, he was convinced he had to guard Labour from the charges of being soft on defence and divided in its counsels.

The former was easier. Whatever his CND roots, Mr Kinnock is no pacifist. He had found it remarkably simple, on becoming leader, to lead his own conscience and that of his colleagues into a complete volte face on nuclear weapons. Avoiding intraparty division was harder. The peace movement has always felt Labour to be its home and has numbered frontbenchers among its number. By the time the war started, opposition to it had dwindled to 36 hard-left MPs and a number of constituency parties. They shared an antipathy to American "imperialism", sympathy with "socialist" Muslim dictators and opposition to Mr Kinnock on almost every aspect of foreign — and domestic — policy.

Mr Kinnock's long achievement has been to neutralise the ability of these MPs and activists to harm him. Indeed he has often turned their opposition to his advantage. Their wilder statements contrast with his moderation. The activists can rant at party conference, but they will always be defeated by the block vote. Ever since his celebrated attack on Militant in 1985, the Labour leader's poll ratings have improved each time he has taken on the left.

Certainly Mr Kinnock was fortunate in the Gulf to have been able to brandish the flag of the United Nations, a totem of the left. Mr Foot had pleaded vainly for UN involvement in the Falklands. By contrast, Mr Kinnock was fighting a UN war in the Gulf. His arch-critic, Tony Benn, had called in September for British troops not to engage in conflict in the Gulf without security council backing. Convinced that such backing would not materialise, Mr Benn was left floundering, and Mr Kinnock triumphant, when it did.

Mr Kinnock's rockiest weeks came in January, when the increasing tempo of the conflict threatened to split the shadow cabinet as well as the recesses of the parliamentary party. He and his foreign affairs spokesman, Gerald Kaufman, struggled to paper over the crack by calling for sanctions to be given "more time". Both must have realised that sanctions would not have worked, however long they lasted, and when the air and land wars began, they swiftly joined the all-out war party from which they never deviated however questionable they must have found some of the American bombing tactics.

In the process, Mr Kinnock lost five frontbenchers. He also had to impose some heavy-handed discipline in dismissing Clare Short for daring to criticise allied bombing targets. The doubletalk of his aides in insisting that freedom of speech on moral issues does not extend to conscience-stricken frontbenchers was reminiscent of the paranoia of the Wilson years. But the front of unity was maintained. And by avoiding the antiwar stance of some American Democrats, French Socialists and German Social Democrats, Mr Kinnock pulled off a political coup.

AN UNLOVELY MONUMENT

Lord Palumbo's final victory over London's conservationists and planners is a tribute to his determination to leave a monument to himself and his extraordinary wealth. He is proposing to build a new office block in the heart of the City next to the Bank of England, the Royal Exchange and the Mansion House. No ordinary citizen could have financed such an assault on the local planning machine, including the City Corporation itself, or on the spirit of conservation law. But for developers to get their own way in London is hardly new: the city is becoming a collection of their monuments.

Lord Palumbo's new building will, if it happens, have two bad consequences. First, it will wipe out eight listed historic buildings together with a surrounding conservation area, a group that comprises the famous view west across the Bank crossroads from Cornhill, with St Paul's rising above Mappin & Webb's Gothic turrets. Yet more of what was once a city of spires, pediments and gables will fall to make way for another large flat-topped block.

Certainly this is to be by a famous architect, James Stirling. But fame in itself does not justify the needless destruction of good existing architecture. Lord Palumbo accepts that the Mappin & Webb block could have been economically restored. Less than 10 per cent of London's buildings are protected by listing or by being in conservation areas. Architects who have rallied to Mr Stirling's defence do their profession no credit by pleading always to be allowed "just one more chance" to show they can outbuild their forebears — and not by comparison but by demolition. The second consequence is that serious damage has been done to conservation control. Lord Palumbo and his backers have been at pains to say that this is a special case. Developers always say that. The Bank conservation area in the City is indeed special. It needs to be specially conserved, therefore. It is not special for its vulnerability. Every developer now has the option, if he can afford the lawyers' fees and a famous architect, to plead that "special" listed buildings and conservation areas should bend to his will.

This may be a paradoxical sort of progress. In the 1960s and 1970s, developers had only to show "planning gain" — usually a stretch of new road — to override height and density limits. This resulted in buildings such as Euston Centre and Stag Place and a skyline comparing badly with that of Paris. But these cases did not demolish neighbouring *historic buildings* so much as overshadow them. The Palumbo block is sheer destruction, a monumental act of egotism.

All is not quite lost. Lord Palumbo is still rich enough, and perhaps sensitive enough, to take Mr Stirling and his monument elsewhere. There are recession-hit sites aplenty that could appeal to them, along much of the South Bank, at Spitalfields, King's Cross, Paddington, Docklands. The nation would praise his patronage and welcome his contribution to London's architectural distinction. That he should insist on building on this one site is simply perverse. He should have been stopped; now he should stop.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Physical education's place in school

From Mr Denis Howell, MP for Small Heath (Labour)

Sir, The government is in a state of incredible confusion about the important subject of sport in our schools. After growing evidence of concern that school sport is in serious decline and PE has lost its place as an essential subject in the education of our children the minister for sport was transferred from the Department of the Environment to the Department of Education.

Almost immediately the government received a report of its own working group upon this subject and it is astonishingly criticised by no less a person than the secretary of state himself. Where is the minister for sport? Total silence, which is in keeping with the role he has played in the eight months he has been in office. No new thinking, no new initiatives and no philosophy about the place of sport in society. It is all very sad.

However, what is much worse is the reported view of Kenneth Clarke to the effect that school children have no essential right to be educated about the joys of swimming and the danger of water to non-swimmers. To justify this heresy on the grounds of cost is for the government to accept a very serious responsibility for the consequences of its neglect.

When Kenneth Clarke tells his working party that their recommendations should be related to the general level of school funding available he confirms the opinion of many of us that the government has finally destroyed the principles upon which the great R. A. B. Butler's Education Act of 1944 was established.

That Act provided that religious education and PE were to be the two compulsory subjects in every school, thus relating the needs of the whole man, spiritually and physically. A future government will need to return to first principles.

This is not "muscular Christianity", as you say in your regrettable leader (February 20), it is an essential need for a healthy community. Every PE teacher I have ever met knows only too well that his or her first requirement is to create a love of sport and a joy about participation without which they cannot fulfil their task. It is not surprising that you conclude with a cynical comment about "team spirit", the absence of which in our society these days ought to be a matter of concern for the country as a whole as well as for the future of British sport.

Yours sincerely,
DENIS HOWELL,
House of Commons.
February 21.

From Professor J. F. Goodwin

Sir, You rightly emphasise that physical education should be "schooling in the proper care of the body" and that team games are not to every young person's taste.

But physical exercise is also necessary to help in reducing the risks of coronary heart disease. The habit of regular appropriate exercise should be adopted early in life when the seeds of coronary disease are sown.

Yours,
J. F. GOODWIN (Chairman),
National Forum for Coronary Heart Disease Prevention,
Room 335, Hamilton House,
Mabledon Place, WC1.

From Ms Susan Hoyle

Sir, For the purposes of the National Curriculum dance is specifically named as an element of physical education. As the interim report of the National Curriculum Working Group states, dance in schools has evolved over the last 20 years. It offers a variety of learning opportunities, has an immediacy and relevance for young people and provides a means of expression and communication.

Professional dance artists have forged dynamic partnerships with teachers to enhance and enrich the experience of school pupils. Dance is anything but the regimented and joyless activity your leading article suggests.

Yours sincerely,
SUSAN HOYLE (Dance Director),
Arts Council,
14 Great Peter Street, SW1.
February 26.

Romanian memoirs

From the Deputy Director of the Hoover Institution

Sir, Mr Levin's article about the Bossy memoirs ("A hard case for J. Edgar", January 14) has only recently been drawn to my attention. Contrary to his statement, the Hoover Institution did not give Professor Patroiu or anyone else permission to *publish* the memoirs or any part of them. In fact, we warned him, both orally and in *writing, as we do all researchers who* use our collections, that publication requires permission of the copyright owner.

The Hoover Institution does allow researchers to make limited copies, not to exceed 5 per cent, of unpublished works for the purpose of scholarly research. Such research use is not in derogation of the US copyright law, but is fair use consistent with it.

Regrettably, someone (not necessarily Professor Patroiu) exceeded our 5 per cent copying limit, and made a copy of the Bossy memoirs available to a Romanian publisher, who published them without the permission of the copyright owner. The breach of agreement with Hoover was a first and necessary step in the breach of copyright; we too have been exploited.

None the less, this is the only such case we are aware of in the seven decades that the Hoover Institution has been making its collections *available to scholars. While we most* deeply regret the event, we cannot conclude that the policies that have served scholarship so well are at fault because of a single offense, however unconscionable.

Sincerely yours,
CHARLES G. PALM,
Deputy Director,
Hoover Institution,
Stanford University, Stanford,
California 94305-6010, USA.
February 21.

Role of parish priests

From Father Stephen Fry

Sir, More important than a research organisation's figures of a "spectacular growth in charismatic evangelical worship outside the established Church" ("Saving the soul of London", article, February 18) is the role of parish priests within the established Church.

The bishop, when authorising the ministry of a priest or priests to a parish, *gives his charge* by way of the cure of souls. This cure makes the parish priest responsible for all those who live within the boundary of that particular parish, a responsibility held before God alone, regardless of the number who make up the congregation.

Quite simply we are not congregational but parish priests. Perhaps 50 per cent of our time is spent with people who do not come to church. Why do we bother? Simply because that is what we are here to do. The vision of the bishop must be greater than those who fill pews. It must incorporate the whole people of God.

Playing the numbers game will not result in getting the Gospel preached. Being available, accessible and determined enough to be involved in the life and work of a parish will do more for the evangelisation of England than counting sheep.

Yours faithfully,
S. FRY,
The Church House,
Ospringe Road, NW5.
February 18.

Gulf war epilogue

From Mr J. F. Q. Switzer

Sir, Colonel Longsdon (February 27) was "much saddened" by the form of intercession at his church last Sunday and would have liked to pray specifically for our own troops in the Gulf. He should be thankful that the latter were even included in the general category of "anyone else who happens to be involved in the conflict".

At the time of the Falklands war — which I regard as a noble step on the road to integrity in dealing with international wickedness — we were told in the university church that the issue had to be viewed in the context of the rights and wrongs of any one nation "matching aggression with aggression and force with force". So the British action was aggression.

Moreoever, in the litany (we use the 1928 version in the Shorter Prayer Book) after praying for the Queen, the passage "giving her the victory over all her enemies" was omitted, as was the entire petition "That it may please thee to bless and prosper the forces of the Queen by sea, land, and air, and to shield them in all dangers and adversities".

Colonel Longsdon should be thankful that this time the bishops of the Church of England (with three abstentions) accepted the necessity of war and backed the government. Who knows — the Church of England might now stop arguing about what constitutes a heresy and get on with fulfilling its role as the national church.

Yours faithfully,
J. F. Q. SWITZER,
Sidney Sussex College,
Cambridge.
February 28.

From Dr Helen McNeil

Sir, After your reporter, Christopher Walker, quoted Major Dan Grigson of the US 101st Airborne Division, describing an Apache helicopter assault on Iraqi supply lines as "a bold bodacious action" (February 26, early editions), he accused Major Grigson of introducing "another dubious word" into the Gulf war vocabulary.

Bodacious is in fact an adjective with a long pedigree in African-American speech, first recorded in 1837 in its adverbial form, bodaciously, according to the University of Chicago *Dictionary of American English.*

While there is some dispute whether bodacious derives from body, as in bodyacious (bodily, wholly) or from boldacious (bold and audacious), it means bold, extreme, absolute. The coalition assault does indeed seem to have been a most bodacious action.

Yours faithfully,
HELEN McNEIL,
University of East Anglia,
School of English and
American Studies,
Norwich, Norfolk.
March 1.

From Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. Knight (retd)

Sir, The wars of the Middle East rejoice in the brevity of their titles. As a civilian who has experienced one of the more effective elements of Saddam's arsenal — his Scuds — I suggest that this episode be named the Three-Day Retreat.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD KNIGHT,
Box 9134, Aramco,
Dhahran 31311, Saudi Arabia.

From Mr Gordon Burrett

Sir, We should be hearing a deafening chorus of gratitude to the *President of the United States* and to the American people for their leading part in the defeat of the aggressor. Perhaps we can at least pray that they will continue to show the same courage and wisdom until peace and stability are achieved in the Middle East.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON BURRETT,
Trinity Cottage,
Church Road,
Claygate, Surrey.
March 1.

From the Vicar of Hatfield

Sir, May I through your columns enquire why among all ex-service personnel I was omitted from those asked to make comments about the Gulf war on TV?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN W. SWEED
(L/Cpl, REME, rtd),
The Vicarage, Hatfield,
Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

Priority social tasks inside prisons

From Lord Hunt

Sir, I was sorry to read the last paragraph of Clifford Longley's article ("Rehabilitation, not control", February 26), in which he comments adversely on the ethos of the officers serving in HM penal institutions. Not only are Mr Longley's strictures grossly over-generalized; he also appears to be unaware of the initiatives from within the ranks of the prison service which were begun in the 1970s and later expanded to a number of prison establishments.

It was then, as I have no doubt it is now, the wish of very many officers to share the social work with prisoners with the probation service. The experiments proved successful, at least until a decade ago.

The fact that such pastoral work is no longer possible in local prisons is due to the gross overcrowding and lack of educational and training facilities as well as the demands on officers as escorts to and from the courts. Of course, there are some officers with "turnkey" attitudes, but by and large prison officers carry out their work with humanity and in many cases despite very adverse circumstances.

One of the important by-products of reducing overcrowding and introducing the reforms proposed by Lord Justice Woolf (report, February 26) is likely to be the growth of a better relationship between officers and inmates, which still exists in most training, dispersal and young offenders' institutions.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUNT (former Chairman,
Parole Board for
England and Wales),
House of Lords.
February 26.

From Mr T. W. Brown and Mr R. A. Griffiths

Sir, Clifford Longley's article on Lord Justice Woolf's report contains generalisations about prison officers which seem to us to be as inaccurate as they are offensive.

In the difficult days and weeks after the outbreak of disorder at Strangeways this prison received over 200 shocked and disoriented men from Manchester. Their urgent personal needs were far beyond the resources of our staff to cope with, but our colleagues in the prison service, themselves tired and under considerable strain, joined us, without waiting for either requests or instructions, in the necessary work of counselling the men and reassuring their partners and relatives.

There is certainly scope for a shift in what Mr Longley calls "the ethos of the prison officer", but the ground is much more fertile than he suggests.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS BROWN,
R. A. GRIFFITHS
(Senior probation officers),
HM Prison Winson Green,
Birmingham, West Midlands.
February 27.

From Mr Eric Morrell

Sir, The tragedy of the prison service since the May report of 1979 is that "positive custody" has never captured the hearts and minds of the many excellent staff working in our penal establishments. They have drifted indecisively between preoccupation with custody and promotion of the potentially constructive programmes provided in many establishments by prison officers, probation officers, workshop staff and teachers.

The real question which must be asked in the wake of Woolf is this: will it be possible for the prison service to produce a purposeful and sustainable argument for its activities during the 1990s? The constant emphasis by successive home secretaries on the need to imprison, probably for substantial periods, the most violent and serious offenders has wide public support. Beyond that, it will be increasingly difficult to attract public support for the incarceration of all those other groups of men and women who have traditionally been imprisoned in this country.

The Criminal Justice Bill, now in its committee stage, provides a vehicle for implementing some of the changes which are implicit in the Woolf report. It clearly carries a substantial measure of all-party support. It is to be hoped that members of Parliament will grasp this immediate opportunity of effecting a sea change in criminal justice policy.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC MORRELL
(Chief Probation Officer),
West Midlands Probation Service,
1 Victoria Square,
Birmingham 1.
February 25.

Birmingham Six

From Sir Frederick Lawton

Sir, So Mr Ludovic Kennedy (February 25) thinks that he can assess evidence in criminal cases tried on indictment better than Sir John Stephenson (February 18) who for 14 years sat from time to time in the Criminal Division of the Court of Appeal. May be he can. But he should remember that judges have to assess evidence for the purpose of doing justice *according to law.*

Mr Kennedy does not seem to appreciate that it is a rule of law that an appellate court is *not entitled* to disregard the findings of juries on issues of credibility unless they are perverse. In the 15 years in which I sat in the Criminal Division of the Court of Appeal I never came across a case in which I could say that the juries' findings on credibility had been perverse. In a few cases I would have decided differently from the jury; but I had to remind myself that in England and Wales we have trial by jury, not by judges.

Mr Kennedy has overlooked the fact that judges, when trying criminal cases, never have to decide whether police officers are telling "fibs". That is what juries do. He should remember, and so should some politicians, that in the recent miscarriage of justice cases it was juries who accepted police and forensic evidence and found the accused guilty, not judges.

Yours truly,
FREDERICK LAWTON,
1 The Village, Skelton, York.
February 25.

Lord Young defended

From Mr Peter Luff

Sir, Your editorial, "Lord Young's reputation" (February 22), is based on a serious misunderstanding of the DTI select committee report on the sale of Rover Group. The report was passed by the committee unopposed: but your statement that its condemnation of Lord Young was "unanimous" is untrue.

The crucial "epilogue" of the report (paragraph 111) was passed on a 6-4 vote. What the report concludes, consistently by a series of delicately balanced votes, splitting largely on party lines, is that the deal was excellent for Rover, for the country and for the people whose jobs depended on the company, but that Lord Young should have been more forthcoming with Parliament.

One paragraph which, on the chairman's casting vote, failed to appear in the final report began, "History may be kinder to the then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry". I share that confidence in history's judgment.

Yours faithfully,
PETER LUFF (Special adviser
to Lord Young, 1987-9),
20 Lower Chestnut Street,
Worcester.
February 27.

Electric treatment

From Ms S. Kemsley

Sir, It is encouraging to learn (Saturday Review, February 16) that the use of electric shock treatment has decreased substantially during the past two decades, but although it has been largely abandoned by some other European countries, it is still being given here to about 20,000 patients a year.

Far from being restricted to the treatment of severe depressive illness it is recommended by the Royal College of Psychiatrists' guidelines as having a place in the treatment of "less severe" depressive illness and various other illnesses, including schizophrenia and anorexia.

Wide variations in treatment by different regions, hospitals and consultants confirm that there is still significant disagreement among psychiatrists regarding its usefulness, rather than the "balanced attitude" referred to in your article.

Yours faithfully,
S. KEMSLEY,
61 Atkins Close,
Cambridge.

Fortunes of war

From Mr J. D. Barclay

Sir, During half-term our family visited the Cabinet war rooms at Westminster. We bought two books in the shop there.

They were presented in a plastic carrier bag decorated with profiles of Winston Churchill. He might have been surprised, as we were, to find stamped on the bottom of the carrier, "Made in Germany".

Yours faithfully,
J. D. BARCLAY,
3 Chalgrove Way,
Emmer Green,
Reading, Berkshire.
March 1.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 1: His Excellency Mr Hiroshi Kitamura was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Japan to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy: Mr Shotaro Miyake (Minister, Financial), Mr Hikoharu Kure (Minister, Commercial), Mr Yukio Takeuchi (Minister, Head of Chancery and Consul-General), Mr Hitoshi Tanaka (Counsellor, Political), Mr Hiroyasu Ando (Counsellor, Director of the Information and Cultural Centre), Mr Sakura Shiga (Counsellor, Financial), Mr Shoji Miyamoto (Counsellor, Agricultural) and Captain Osamu Iizuka (Defence Attaché).

Madame Kitamura was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir Patrick Wright (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr Geoffrey Chipperfield (Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy) was received by The Queen.

The Queen this afternoon visited the Joint Headquarters, Royal Air Force High Wycombe and was received by Air Chief Marshal Sir Patrick Hine (Joint Commander).

The Right Hon Sir Robert Fellowes, Rear-Admiral David Allen and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Cadet Force, visited the Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park, Camberley, Surrey and was received by Major General D. M. Naylor (Director General Territorial Army and Organisation).

His Royal Highness, Admiral of the Royal Naval Sailing Association, later attended the Commodore's Dinner in HMS Dolphin, Gosport and was received by Admiral Sir Anthony Morton (Deputy Lieutenant of Hampshire).

Lieutenant-Commander Malcolm Sillars, RN was in attendance.

This morning The Princess Royal, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, opened the new Jaeger Factory, The Roding, Campbeltown, Mull of Kintyre and was received by Colonel Archibold Fletcher (Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Argyll and Bute).

Afterwards Her Royal Highness opened the Mill Shop at Alex Begg and Company, Viewfield Road, Ayr and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Ayrshire and Arran (Colonel Sir Bryce Knox).

The Hon Mrs Legge-Bourke and Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gibbs were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 1: The Prince and Princess of Wales attended a Service of Thanksgiving in Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff, South Glamorgan.

Their Royal Highnesses were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan (Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards).

Subsequently, The Prince of Wales, Honorary Air Commodore, visited Royal Air Force Brawdy, Haverfordwest.

Major-General Sir Christopher Airy was in attendance.

The Princess of Wales launched a major new strategy to promote Cardiff and Wales, at St David's Hall.

Afterwards Her Royal Highness visited Royal Air Force St Athan, Barry.

The Hon Mrs Vivian Baring, Mr Patrick Jephson and Mr Richard Arbiter were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 1: The Duke of Gloucester this evening was present at a dinner to celebrate the Sesquicentenary of the opening of the Reform Clubhouse at 104 Pall Mall, London, SW1.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

Memorial service

Judge Hawser, QC
The Lord Chancellor was represented by Miss Jenny Rowe, Principal Private Secretary, at a memorial service for Judge Lewis Hawser, QC, held on Thursday at Temple Church. Canon J. Robinson officiated.

Mr Peregrine Hill and Mr Elliot Hill, grandsons, and Mr Anthony Hawser, son, read the lessons. Dame Judi Dench read from T.S. Eliot's *Four Quartets*, Mr Gordon Griffin read *Remember* by Christina Rossetti and Mr Michael Williams read J.W.N. Sullivan's *But For the Grace of God*. Mr Justice Kaplan gave an address. Clemency Burton-Hill, granddaughter (violin) and Mrs Dinah Bradac (piano) played Elgar's *Chanson de Matin*.

Among those present were:

Mrs Gillian Hill (daughter), Mrs Anthony Hawser (daughter-in-law), Eloise Hawser (granddaughter), Matthew Quilter (step-grandson), Mr and Mrs Eric Hauser (brother and sister-in-law), Mr Frank Hauser (brother), Miss Emma Hauser, Miss Sophie Hauser, Mr and Mrs Stanley Wootliff, Mr Matthew Wootliff.

Lord Wigoder, QC, and Lady Wigoder, Lord Griffiths, Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Richard, QC, Lord Mishcon, Lord Justice Woolf, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson, Mr and Mrs Jeremy Thorpe, Sir John Stephenson, Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, MP, Lord Justice Neill, Sir Norman Fowler, MP, and Lady Fowler, Sir Patrick O'Connor, Sir Stephen Brown (president, Family Division), Sir Ian Percival, QC, His Honour Sir William Stabb, QC, and Lady Stabb, Sir Peter and Lady Parker, Sir Colin Cole (Garter Principal King of Arms), Sir Jack Jacob, QC, Sir Trevor Reeve, Mr Justice Garland, Mr Justice Turner, Mr Justice Auld, Mr Justice Schiemann, Mr Justice Morland, Mr Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Mr Ellis Birk and Baroness Birk.

Judge Newey, QC (Official Referee) and Mrs Newey, Judge White (Council of Circuit Judges), Judge McHale, His Honour Edgar Fay, QC, Judge Hayman, Judge Graham, QC, Judge Verney, Judge Pownall, QC, Judge Diamond, QC, Judge Sanders, Judge Shindler, QC, Judge and Mrs John Davies, Judge John Loyd, Judge Esyr Lewis, QC, Judge Bowsher, QC, and Mrs Bowsher, His Honour Alan King-Hamilton, QC, Judge Kellock, QC, and Mrs Kellock, Judge Bates, QC, and Mrs Bates, Mr Justice and Mrs David Hirst.

Mr Petre Crowder, QC (treasurer, Inner Temple) with Mr Patrick Sheehan (sub-treasurer) and Miss Catherine Barlen and Mr Ian Ross (Inner Temple Debating Society); Miss Eleanor Platt (representing Judge Hawser's chambers), Mr Christopher Wright (Nicholson Graham and Jones), Mr John Rushton (Rowe and Maw), Mr Charles F Wegg-Prosser (Justice), Mr Ralph Gilmore and Miss Carol Ellis, QC (editor, *The Law Reports*), Mr John Faulkner (Arts Council of Great Britain).

Mr Charles Anson, Mr and Mrs Neville Sandelson, Mr Peter Fraser, Mr Michael Noakes, Rear-Admiral T B Homan, Mr Richard Clegg, QC, Mr Philip Bennett, Mr Roger Suddards, Mr and Mrs Leo Abse, Mr Jonah Walker-Smith, Dr and Mrs Basil Bard, Mr Francis Barnes, Mr Richard Carter, Mr John Graham, Mr Geoffrey Roberts, Mr and Mrs A Simpson, Mr and Mrs Richard Beeby, Mr and Mrs Sidney Manches, Miss Judith Vickers, Mr William Perry, Mr and Mrs L Manches and Mr William Keating.

Dinners

Royal Naval Sailing Association
The Duke of Edinburgh, Admiral of the Royal Naval Sailing Association, attended the commodore's dinner held last night in HMS Dolphin. Admiral Sir Jeremy Black, commodore, presided.

Reform Club
The Duke of Gloucester was present at a dinner held at the Reform Club last night to mark the sesquicentenary of the opening of the clubhouse in Pall Mall. Sir Gordon Borrie, QC, chairman, presided.

The Queen's Regiment
The Danish Ambassador was the principal guest at a dinner given by The Queen's Regiment at Law Society's Hall last night to mark the 25th anniversary of the regiment. Brigadier R.W. Acworth, deputy Colonel of the Regiment, presided.

Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry
Major-General Sir Michael Palmer, Honorary Colonel of the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, presided at the annual Red Rose dinner held last night at Lancaster House, Chorley, Lancashire. Lord Rochester and Dr R.G.G. Mercer, Headmaster of Stonyhurst College, were the principal guests.

1 Squadron, HAC
Major I.C.S. Morpeth, Commander of 1 Squadron, Honourable Artillery Company, presided at a dinner held last night at Armoury House. Colonel and Alderman C.H. Martin and Major-General M.T. Tennant also spoke.

Pembroke Yeomanry
Colonel W.P. Howells presided at the annual reunion dinner of the Pembroke Yeomanry held last night at the RAC Ranges, Castlemartin, to mark the anniversary of the surrender of the French invaders at Fishguard.

Army Air Corps
Lieutenant General Sir John Learmont, Colonel Commandant of the Army Air Corps, presided at the annual dinner held last night in the Headquarters Officers' Mess, Middle Wallop. Majors P.H. Dowse, T.I.J. Toler and P.N. Elgar were the guests.

East Midlands Universities Air Squadron
Air Chief Marshal Sir Brendan Jackson, Air Member for Supply and Organisation, was the guest of honour at the 50th anniversary dinner of the East Midlands Universities Air Squadron held last night at RAF Newton. Squadron Leader R.D. Gregory, Commanding Officer, presided.

Lord Byron
Lord Byron, President of the Byron Society, presided at the annual House of Lords dinner held last night. The Countess of Longford, vice-president, Lord Blake and Lady Caroline Lytton, also spoke.

London Welsh
Baroness White was the guest of honour at a London Welsh St David's Day dinner held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Mr J. Wynford Evans presided. Mr Kenneth Bowen, Professor Kenneth O. Morgan and Mr Philip Weekes also spoke.

British-American Associates
The British-American Associates gave a dinner last night at 170 Queen's Gate in honour of Professor Alan Cairns, of the University of British Columbia, and Mrs Cairns and Sir John and Lady Leahy. Professor David Adams, chairman, presided.

Weekend royal engagements

TODAY: The Princess Royal, as President of the Rural Housing Trust, will open a new housing scheme at Brockenhurst at 4.00; as President of the Save the Children Fund, will visit the fund's shop, 18 High Street, Lymington, at 5.15; and, as Patron of the Royal Lymington Yacht Club, will attend the annual cruising dinner at 7.40.

The Duke of Kent will attend the 25th Churchill memorial concert by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta at Blenheim Palace at 6.40 in aid of the Music Therapy Charity.

TOMORROW: Princess Alexandra will open the Commonwealth Carnival at Clifton College at 2.15 in aid of Sight Savers (Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind).

OBITUARIES

FELIPE BENAVIDES

Dr Felipe Benavides, Peruvian naturalist, conservationist and diplomat, died in London on February 21 aged 73. He was born on August 7, 1917.

FELIPE Benavides fought many doughty wildlife conservation campaigns but for none is he better remembered than for his stalwart defence of *Lama vicugna*, the vicuña of the Andean plateau. A charming and graceful cameloid ruminant, the vicuña has the misfortune to possess a soft brown wool which is much prized in high quality textile manufacture. The vicuña was the subject of protective regulation at the time of the Incas and successive Peruvian governments had always recognised the animal's economic importance. Nevertheless when Benavides first became interested in the vicuña in the 1950s he was appalled to discover that numbers had dwindled to little more than 5,000 from a population estimated to be one million at the turn of the century. This began a campaign which was in effect to last Benavides for the rest of his life.

The son of Alfredo Benavides a Peruvian ambassador to Britain during the war, and a relative of Oscar Benavides, a former president of Peru, Felipe Benavides began life as a career diplomat. As a trainee he had been a contemporary of Xavier Perez de Cuellar, present secretary-general of the United Nations. He was at his father's embassy during the interesting period after Peru entered the war on the allied side in 1943. After the war he studied at the London School of Economics under Harold Laski and began a business career in tandem with his diplomatic activities. He represented the construction company George Wimpey in South America and his work in securing contracts for it earned him appointment as honorary OBE in 1963.

In the meantime a thesis on Peruvian imports had already alerted him to the importance of the vicuña. Nevertheless it was the plight of the whale off the coast of Peru which gave him his first wildlife conservation concern. As Peruvian observer to the International Whaling Commission in London he was horrified by the scale of the slaughter worldwide and found that in Peru's case the depredation was the result of a fleet owned by Aristotle Onassis. With characteristic energy he mounted a press campaign which led to a sea chase by the Peruvian navy and the arrest of Onassis's fleet. Onassis was fined $3 million and sold up his whale-catching business.

When he learned of the threat to the vicuña Benavides began a similarly energetic campaign and his powerful advocacy led to the setting up of reserves, notably at Pampa Galeras, on the Andean *altiplano*, where in little more than ten years from 1967 a herd of 40,000 had been established. This feat earned Benavides the first J. Paul Getty wildlife conservation prize in 1975. But the very success of the experiment brought attendant perils for the vicuña. Claiming that a drought and shortage of grazing would condemn large numbers of the animals to slow starvation a lobby of scientists tried to obtain permission for a cull and the removal of the vicuña from the list of endangered species.

Benavides thwarted the latter threat but with the backing of the World Wildlife Fund for Nature the cull of 7,000 "surplus" vicuñas went ahead. The skins were cured and stored, the meat was sent to Lima supermarkets and Peruvian newspapers carried recipes for vicuñaburgers. The cull severely strained Benavides's relations with the WWF and he resigned his international trusteeship. Meanwhile Benavides's campaign against the cull led to an International Fund for Animal Welfare fact-finding mission to Pampa Galeras which reported that there was no evidence of drought or overgrazing. Even before that, public outrage had led to a decision from the president of Peru to halt the cull.

Another of Benavides's campaigns was over Paracas, a Peruvian coastal site which is an important staging post for migrating birds. Commercial exploitation of the local shellfish threatened this paradisiac spot with destruction through the construction of a pier, the incessant rumble of heavy trucks and the creation of a shanty town for workers. In spite of the area's being designated a marine national park this was one of Benavides's battles still unresolved at his death.

Like many people of his strong convictions Benavides made many enemies, some of whom, in the case of the vicuña, accused him of using the public's predilection for cute woolly animals to subvert sound husbandry. The WWF felt that the vicuña should pay its way as the price of survival and Peruvian officials called him a "sentimental, egoistical publicity-seeker". He in turn called them "liars and butchers". Certainly no one who saw the television documentary *Benavides!* on Channel 4's *Fragile Earth* series recently can regret his tireless and eloquent campaign to save a peculiarly endearing species.

DR OLIVER PLUNKETT

Dr Oliver Robert Lewis Leslie Plunkett, formerly physician superintendent at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey, has died aged 85. He was born on June 30, 1905.

OLIVER Plunkett was the only physician superintendent ever appointed at St Peter's Hospital, Chertsey. In the early days of the Health Service an NHS consultant might also manage the administrative and financial policy of a hospital, a function now devolved to the professional administrator. His success in this dual role offers a striking example of the results which a dedicated but unassuming medical man could achieve.

He served as physician superintendent at St Peter's for 19 years from the formation of the NHS in 1948 and became deeply committed to postgraduate medical education. In the 1950s he introduced a series of refresher courses for GPs, a practice which was subsequently accepted nationally and nowadays is almost de rigueur.

In 1966 he founded the postgraduate medical centre at St Peter's which still bears his name. He worked with statisticians at the then Ministry of Health to introduce the computerised analysis of hospital activities, the forerunner of the type of database which is assuming increasing importance in the current reorganisation of the NHS. Above all, he was dedicated to the service of his patients, possessing a remarkable breadth of clinical knowlege and an astute mind, which enabled him to treat illness right across the spectrum of the modern sub-specialities of internal medicine. Oliver Plunkett was born in Cairo where his father was one of Lord Kitchener's aides in the British Army. After public school, he read physics at London University. He fractured his neck at the age of 20 which left him with a mild hemiparesis. During his recovery he became interested in medicine and was accepted as a medical student at St George's Hospital at Hyde Park Corner. Following a series of house posts at St George's he became medical registrar there.

In 1936 he took a short service commission in the Royal Army Medical Corps and held the post of the senior medical officer on Cyprus. During the second world war he served in France, South Wales and Egypt and was appointed divisional physician at Botleys Park War Hospital on the same site as St Peter's Hospital in Chertsey, which was the wartime base outside London for St Thomas' Hospital. In 1948 he took over from Major-General J. A. Maniford as physician superintendent at St Peter's. He remained physician superintendent until the administrative re-organisation of the Health Service in 1967 and consultant physician until his retirement in 1970.

Despite his neck injury Oliver Plunkett was a keen sportsman. He represented London University at rifle shooting and won the civilian revolver championship in Egypt. Other interests were sailing, modern architecture and electronics. He married twice and is survived by two daughters and by his son.

DR DANIEL McDONALD

Dr Daniel McLean McDonald, industrialist, engineer and recently a benefactor of Cambridge University, died on February 26 aged 85. He was born on September 4, 1905.

DANIEL McDonald was the founder of an archaeological institute at Cambridge University and bequeathed major art works to the Fitzwilliam Museum. He made his fortune with an electronics company that captured a place in the teenage market for record players.

The son of a Fort William grocer who served for a time as its provost, McDonald took a first in engineering at Glasgow University. Soon afterwards he moved to Birmingham and in 1932 he used his savings of £300 to establish a small electronics business, based in a shed with a workforce of only a single apprentice. This enterprise, though modest in scale, gave McDonald the scope to exercise his engineering flair, and was the springboard from which the successful BSR (Birmingham Sound Reproducers) company later developed.

McDonald was a man of wide interests and great abilities, and while developing his electronics business found time to study medicine, taking a medical degree at Birmingham university in 1942. In the later years of the second world war he returned to engineering, working on the development of techniques for the detection of underwater mines. After the war, McDonald devoted his energies to developing the BSR electronics company, which he had founded. By the 1960s it had grown to become the world's second largest manufacturer of hi-fi components. The secret of this success lay in marketing record players at a price which teenagers could afford, and the result, when the company was floated on the Stock Market in 1957, was to make McDonald a millionaire.

In 1970 McDonald sold his interest in the BSR company, of which he was chairman, for £16 million and moved to Switzerland. For a time he also had homes in Ireland and Bermuda, but for the last years of his life he lived in the Isle of Man, where he devoted himself to building up a farm and to his keen amateur interest in archaeology. He was particularly intrigued by the history of weights and measures in early societies, and wrote a number of papers tracing the development of the pre-metric systems used until recently in Britain back to the ancient civilisations of Egypt and Mesopotamia. This interest led him in 1988 to make contact with the department of archaeology at Cambridge University, and subsequently to found the McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research there, with a gift of £11 million. The institute is already supporting a number of important field projects in Europe and the Near East, and plans are well advanced for the major new building in which it will eventually be housed.

Alongside his interest in archaeology McDonald was also a fastidious collector of paintings. The collection, built up over a period of 30 years, contains works by leading artists including Lely, Hogarth, Canaletto and Gainsborough. In 1966 he gave seven paintings from his collection to the Tate Gallery, the National Portrait Gallery and the National Army Museum. In 1990 he bequeathed the remainder of his collection, numbering more than 80 works with an estimated value of £15 million, to the Fitzwilliam museum at Cambridge, where two of the paintings, an equestrian portrait by George Stubbs, and a seashore scene by Francis Holman, are already on display, along with a charming Boucher on loan from Mrs McDonald.

McDonald was a man of great energy and determination and was actively involved in plans for his new archaeological institute up to the time he died. Sadly, he did not live to see the foundation stone laid, but the McDonald Institute and the benefaction to the Fitzwilliam will together stand as his memorial.

He is survived by his wife, Winifred, and one son.

JACK WISEMAN

Professor Frank Gould writes:

THERE are two important aspects of Jack Wiseman's character to be added to your obituary. First, he was unstintingly generous with his time and encouragement to younger economists as I discovered to my benefit when I began working in fields related to his. Second, he brought an infectious (almost rumbustious) enthusiasm both to life and the rather sober world of theoretical economics.

Being abroad with him and witnessing the rate at which his local discoveries outstripped your own was an experience in itself.

Birthays

TODAY: Sir John Ackroyd, honorary secretary, Royal College of Music, 59; Miss Margaret Barbieri, ballerina, 44; Mr Harry Blech, violinist and conductor, 81; Lady Moyra Browne, former superintendent-in-chief, St John Ambulance Brigade, 73; Baroness Burton of Coventry, 87; Lord Cottesloe, 91; Sir Leonard Crossland, former chairman, Ford Motor Company, 77; Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Darlington, 81; Lord Elton, 61; Mr John Gardner, composer, 74; Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, President of the Soviet Union, 60; Sir Donald Gosling, joint chairman, National Car Parks, 62; Mr R.E. Groves, former chairman, Mayer International, 71; Lord Howie of Troon, 67; Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster, 68.

Dame Naomi James, author and yachtswoman, 42; Mr Robert Lloyd, opera singer, 51; Sir John Manduell, composer, 63; Mr Daniel Meinertzhagen, former chairman, Royal Insurance, 76; Dame Pattie Menzies, 92; Lieutenant-General Sir Robert Richardson, 62; Mr Robert Simpson, composer, 70; Mr John Tusa, managing director, BBC World Service, 55; Mr J.P.R. Williams, rugby player and orthopaedic surgeon, 42; Mr Ian Woosnam, golfer, 33.

TOMORROW: Mr Ernest Bradbury, writer and broadcaster, 72; the Hon Peter Brooke, MP, 57; Mr Peter Calver, racehorse trainer, 57; Lord John FitzGerald, racehorse trainer, 39; Sir George Gardiner, MP, 56; Dr Rod Hackney, former president, RIBA, 49; Mr Takashi Ishihara, chairman, the Nissan Motor Company, 79.

Mr Martin Lovett, former member, Amadeus Quartet, 64; Mr Maurice Lynn, headmaster, The Oratory School, 40; Air Vice-Marshal C.G. Maughan, 68; Lord Mellish, 78; Mr Peter O'Sullevan, racing commentator, 73; Sir Mark Prescott, racehorse trainer, 43; Miss Miranda Richardson, actress, 33; Mr Ronald Searle, artist and cartoonist, 71; Lord Templeman, 71; Miss Fatima Whitbread, athlete, 30.

Inner Temple

Mr David William Steel, QC, has been elected Master of the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.C.G. Bradshaw
and Miss K.M. Watson
The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Mr C.D. Bradshaw, OBE, of Stoney Cross, Hampshire, and of Mrs M. Bradshaw, of Greyton, South Africa, and Katharine, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ben Watson, of Nutley, Hampshire.

Mr J. Carpenter
and Dr E.P. Peters
The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mrs Edith Joyce Carpenter, of Alrewas, Staffordshire, and the late Mr Keith Carpenter, and Elisabeth Paula, second daughter of Dr and Mrs David Peters, of Cold Brayfield, Buckinghamshire.

Mr R.J. Davies
and Miss B.M. Nash
The engagement is announced between Russell, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Davies, of Bayston Hill, Shropshire, and Bethan, middle daughter of Mr and Mrs George Nash, of Linby, Nottinghamshire.

Mr E. C. Heilpern
and Miss A.M. Moss
The engagement is announced between Eliot Charles, son of Henry and Rita Heilpern, of Ealing, London, and Andrea Melanie, daughter of Cyril and Jacqueline Moss, of Leeds.

Mr M.F.G. Kentish
and Miss A. Dodd
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Mr David Kentish, and of Mrs Betsey Kentish, of Putney, London, and Alice, daughter of the Rev James and Mrs Dodd, of Epping Upland, Essex.

Mr D.W. Morgan
and Miss K.J.A. Kenyon
The engagement is announced between Donald, son of Dr and Mrs J.B. Morgan, of Elie, Fife, and Kirsten, daughter of Mrs A.C. Kenyon and the late Mr R.M. Kenyon, of Mellor, Cheshire.

Mr M. Reason
and Miss P.K. Gillies
The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Reason, of the Old Rectory, Sandhurst, Kent, and Portia, younger daughter of Mr Alan Gillies, of Barnes, and Mrs Moriel Gillies, of Ramsgate.

Mr W.H.M. Robson
and Miss T.M. Head
The engagement is announced between Mark, elder son of Mr and Mrs F.H.N. Robson, of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, and Teresa, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs A.E. Head, of Eton Wick, Berkshire.

Mr L.S. Roper
and Miss R.M. Milne
The engagement is announced between Lindsay, only son of Mr and Mrs Roper, of Alabama, USA, and Rachel, eldest daughter of Mr R. Milne, of Chelsea, London, and Mrs Pat Milne, of East Horsley, Surrey.

Mr M.J. Rose
and Miss A.J. Powell
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr John Rose and Mrs Judy Pravda, of Fleet, Hampshire, and Amanda, daughter of David Powell and the late Jennifer Powell, and stepdaughter of Margaret Powell, of Milverton, Llantwit Major.

Appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr John Smith, one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary, has been reappointed an Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. He will succeed Sir John Dellow as Deputy Commissioner in the spring.

Mr Brian Hayes, Chief Constable of Surrey Constabulary, to be one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Constabulary, responsible for forces in South East England.

National Portrait Gallery

The Prince of Wales will be present at a Raj reception in aid of the National Portrait Gallery Development Appeal at the Durbar Court, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, on March 11.

A Durbar Ball, a recreation of an Edwardian coronation ball, will be held at the Royal Automobile Club on March 24 in aid of the appeal.

For further details, contact the Development Office, NPG, telephone: 071-306 0055.

Church services tomorrow

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 S Euch: 9.30 M: 11 S Euch. Vaughan Williams in G minor. Hear my prayer (Purcell). The Dean: 3.15 E. Responses (Moore). Stanford in C. Heu mihi Domine (Schutz): 6.30 Sermon & Compline. Rev J M Gledhill.

YORK MINSTER: 8, 8.45 HC: 10 S Euch. Litany (Loosemore). Mass for five voices (Byrd). Mr P Cunningham: 11.30 M. Responses (Moore). The Lamentation (Bairstow). Benedictus (Moore): 4 E. Dyson in D. Jehovah quam multi sunt hostes (Purcell). Canon R Metcalf.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 M. Responses (Harris), Benedicite (Batten). The Service in Four Parts (Mundy). Rev J Witheridge: 11.30 HC. The Short Service (Wills). Ave verum corpus (Hendrie): 3.15 E. Magnificat sexti toni (Palestrina). By the waters of Babylon (Wills). Rev C Hill.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC: 10 M. Responses (Tomkins), Benedicite in A (Harris). Wash me throughly (Wesley). Canon C Semper: 11.15 Abbey Euch. Mass in five parts (Byrd). Ave verum corpus (Byrd). The Dean: 3 E. Blair in B minor. I waited for the Lord (Mendelssohn). Rev Dr H R Allen Jr: 5.45 Organ Recital. Metrion Wynn Jones: 6.30 Meditation & Music Taize style.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 HC: 11 Euch. Missa Brevis (Berkeley). Out of the Deep (Morley). Nolo Mortem peccatoris (Morley). Canon P Price: 3 E. Day in B flat. Wash me throughly (Wesley). Rev N Worn.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7, 8, 9, 10.30 SM. Asperges me (Plainsong). Agnus dei (Byrd). Ne irascaris Domine (Philips). We do worship and praise thee (Rachmaninov). 12, 5.30, 7: 2.30 Organ Recital. John Browne: 3.30 V & B. Magnificat tertii toni (de Monte). Jehova quam multi sunt (Purcell).

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8, 10 (Children's), 6 LM: 11.30 HM. O Quam Gloriosum (Victoria). O Sacrum Convivium (Farrant). Canon J P Pannett.

GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DIVINE WISDOM, Moscow Rd, W2: 9.30 M: 11 Divine Liturgy.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, Ennismore Gdns, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL OF ST SAVVA, Lancaster Rd, W11: 10.30 Divine Liturgy.

THE CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC: 11.15 S Euch. Missa Matris Dei (Jackson). Canon J O Colling.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch. Ireland in C. Rev J Robson.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 HC. Thou knowest Lord (Purcell). Mass in four parts (Byrd). O Thou before the world began (Vulpius). The Chaplain, The Life Guards.

GRAY'S INN CHAPEL: 8.30 HC. Canon E James.

LINCOLN'S INN CHAPEL: 11.30 MP. Nolo Mortem peccatoris (Morley). Rev F V A Boyse.

TOWER OF LONDON, EC3: 9.15 HC: 11 M. Responses (Byrd). Ashfield in F. Jehova quam multi sunt hostes mei (Purcell). Rev R D Gould.

TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street, EC4: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP. Christ for our sakes (Anerio). Responses (Smith). The Lamentations (Bairstow). Ireland in C. Lord let me know mine end (Greene). The Master.

ST CLEMENT DANES (RAF Church) WC2: 9, 12.15 HC: 11 MP. Sumsion in B flat. Stanford in B flat. Nolo Mortem peccatoris (Morley). Ven B N Halfpenny.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC: 11 Euch. Mass for five voices (Byrd). Ave verum corpus (Philips): 3.30 E. Call to Remembrance (Farrant). Humfrey in E minor. Wash me throughly (Wesley).

ALL HALLOWS BY THE TOWER: 11 S Euch. Confirmation Service. Rt Rev G Leonard.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8, 8.15 LM: 11 HM. Missa Quand io pens (Lassus). Tristis est anima mea (Poulenc). Rev J A Younger: 6 E & B. The Short Service (Gibbons). Drop drop slow tears (Walton). Rev P de Fortis.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Mr David Turner: 6.30 Rev S Parke.

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, Old Church Street, SW3: 8 HC: 10 Children's Service: 11 Parish Communion. Rev J H L Cross: 6 E. Preb C E L Thomson.

CHRIST CHURCH, CHELSEA, SW3: 8 HC: 11 S Euch. Rev S Acland.

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street: 8.15 HC: 11 S Euch. Mass for five voices (Byrd). In die tribulationis (Guami). Rev V Stock.

HOLY TRINITY, Prince Consort Road, SW7: 8.30, 11 HC. Rev Dr M Israel.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 M & Euch. Annual Service of the Institute of Journalists. Dyson in F. Sumsion in F. Come ye sons of Art (Purcell). Canon J Oates: 6.30 E. Responses (Tomkins). Faux-bourdons (Gibbons). Lord let me know mine end (Greene). Canon J Oates.

ST CUTHBERT'S, Philbeach Gardens SW5: 10 HC: 11 S Euch. Whitlock in G. Call to remembrance O Lord (Farrant). Rev J Vine.

ST GEORGE'S, Bloomsbury, WC1: 10 Parish Communion: 6.30 E.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch. Missa Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina). Miserere (Allegri). The Rector.

ST GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, St Giles High St, WC2: 8, 12, 7.15 HC: 11 MP. Rev G C Taylor: 6.30 EP. Rev P Faunch.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch. The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Muswell Hill, N10: 8 HC: 11 MP. Preb M Bunker: 6.30 Confirmation Service.

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch: 5.45 EP.

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch. Missa Brevis (Lotti). Hide not thou thy face (Farrant). The Vicar: 6 E & Ministry of Healing Short Service, Purcell in G minor. Jehova quam multi sunt hostes (Purcell). Rev D White.

ST JOHN'S, Hyde Park Crescent, W2: 8 HC: 10 Parish Euch with Children's Church. Canon T Birchard: 6.30 Evening Worship. Rev O Ross.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, Holland Rd, W14: 10 LM: 11 SM: 6 V & B.

ST JOHN'S WOOD CHURCH, NW8: 8 HC: 9.30 Parish Communion: 11 S Euch. Missa Brevis in D. Rev D Firth.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC: 10.30 MP & HC. Byrd in four voices. O Saviour of the world (Goss). Rev D Watson: 6.30 E. Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley). Rev N Vigers.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC: 10 Family Communion: 11 S Euch. Missa Brevis (Palestrina). Litany (Walton). Dean of Norwich.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 9.30 M (Radio 4 Broadcast). Responses (Clucas). Collegium Regale (Howells). Lord let me know mine end (Greene). Bernard Weatherill, MP: 1 Horse Rangers' Association Service.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8, 12.30, 7.30 HC: 9.45 Euch. Christus factus est (Bruckner). Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley). Rev P Cowell: 11.30 Visitors to London Service. Rev M Henwood: 2.45 Chinese Service. Rev G Lee: 5 E. Responses (Byrd). Short Service (Byrd). Crucifixus (Lotti): 6.30 ES. World of Work. Rev H Oakley.

ST MARY ABBOTS, Kensington, W8: 8, 12.30 HC. The Vicar: 9.30 S Euch. Canon J Wilkinson: 11.15 M. Rev P Myles: 6.30 E. The Vicar.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM: 11 HM. Missa Brevis (Palestrina). Fr C Richardson: 6.15 Stations of the Cross & B.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC: 11 Euch. Missa a quattuor vocibus (Byrd). Peccantes me quotidie (Morales). Rev V Makin: 6.30 Ministry of Healing. Rev I Brown.

ST MARY-LE-STRAND (WRNS Church), Strand WC2: 11 Sung Communion. Rev O Clarke.

ST MATTHEW'S, Great Peter St, SW1: 8 HC: 10 S Euch. Mass (Shaw). The Vicar: 6.30 LM.

ST MICHAEL'S, Chester Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 11 MP. Rev D C L Prior: 7 ES & HC. Rev D C L Prior.

ST MICHAEL'S, Cornhill, EC3: 11 Euch. Litany in Procession (Tallis). Missa Matris Dei (Jackson). O God Thou hast cast us out (Purcell).

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC: 11 S Euch. Missa (1640) (Monteverdi). In ieiunio et fletu (Tallis). Miserere mei (Byrd). Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC: 10 Family Mass: 11 SM. Missa Aspice Domine (Palestrina). Hear my prayer (Purcell). Fr D Tillyer.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner Street, SW3: 8, 12.15 HC: 11 MP. Benedictus (Elgar). Miserere me Deus (Byrd). Preb D W C Mossman: 6.30 E. Walmisley in D minor. Like as the hart (Howells). Rev K Yates.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9, LM: 11 SM. Mass of Reconciliation (Hewitt-Jones). O Saviour of the world (Hewitt-Jones). Manus tuae Domine (Morales). Fr C Colven: 6 Stations of the Cross & B.

ST VEDAST, Foster Lane, EC2: 11 SM. The Rector.

THE ANNUNCIATION, Bryanston Street, W1: 10.15 Stations of the Cross: 11 SM. Missa Simile est regnum coelorum (Victoria). Ad te levavi oculos meos (Palestrina): 6 LM & B.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev J H McIndoe.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15, 6.30 HC. Rev H G Ross.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina). Lamentations (aleph) (Tallis). Lamentations (gimel) (Tallis).

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM: 11 HM. Mass of St Clare (Refice). Veritas mea (Malcolm). Intende voce orationem meam (Elgar). Ave Maria (Elgar).

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Missa, Missa Douce memoire (Lassus). In ieiunio et fletu (Tallis). 12.30, 4.30, 7: 3.30 V & B. Inter vestibulum et altare (Ceballos).

OUR LADY OF VICTORIES, Kensington High Street, W8: 8.30, 10, 12.30, 6.30 LM: 11.15 SM. Missa Super je ne menge point (Lassus). Unus ex discipulis (Victoria). In monte Oliveti (Croce).

AMERICAN CHURCH IN LONDON, Tottenham Court Rd, W1: 11 Rev Ron F Allison.

CITY TEMPLE, Holborn, EC1: 10.30 Mr John Barclay.

HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH, W1: 11 Rev L Griffiths-Brian Frost: 6.30 Music.

KENSINGTON TEMPLE (Charismatic), Notting Hill Gate, W11: 9, 11, Wynne Lewis: 2.30, Baptism, Ian Andrews: 6.30, Healing Service, Ian Andrews: 9 Late on Sunday, Chris Cartwright.

KENSINGTON URC, Allen Street, W8: 11, 6.30 Rev P Lovell.

REGENT SQUARE URC (Presbyterian/Congregational), Tavistock Place, WC1: 11 Rev R K Scopes: 6 United service with Methodists.

SALVATION ARMY (Regent Hall), Oxford St W1: 11 Major R Redhead: 2.45 International Staff Band: 6.30 Lt-Col L Fisher.

ST ANDREW'S URC, Frognal Lane NW3: 11 Rev Dr P Morgan.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 HC. Rev V F Frazier: 7 Choral M. Mass for four voices (Byrd). Rev J Evanson.

ST JOHN'S WOOD URC, NW8: 11 Rev W C McCrorie.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 11 Morning Service. Rev Dr C M Morris: 6.30 United Service. Westminster Central Hall, General Eva Burrows.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11 Rev B Beck: 6.30, General Eva Burrows. Wesley Bicentenary.

WESTMINSTER CHAPEL, Buckingham Gate, SW1: 11, 6.30 Rev Dr R T Kendall.

WESTMINSTER MEETING SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers), 52 St Martins La WC2: 11, Meeting for worship.

It was only right that God, who creates and preserves all things, should make Jesus perfect through suffering, in order to bring many sons to share his glory. For Jesus is the one who leads them to salvation.
Hebrews 2:10 GNB

BIRTHS

BODDINGTON - On February 22nd 1991, at St Albans, to Sally 'Pom' (née Pomeroy) and Tim, a daughter, Ruth Patricia, a sister to Helen.

BRASS - On February 24th, to Julia (née Fovargue) and Hugh, a son, Jeremy Hugh Thomas, a brother for Olivia and Naomi.

BROWNE - On February 28th, to Nina (née Martyn) and Simon, a daughter, Richenda.

CROLE - On February 27th, in London, to Duncan and Davina, a son.

DAMPIER - On February 23rd, to Lynn and Philip, another beautiful son Max, a brother for Guy Yogi.

DAVISON - On February 22nd, to Catherine and James, a son, Luke Edward, a brother to Joshua.

DONALDSON - On February 6th, to Ann and Stan, a daughter, Anastasia Alexandra, also welcomed by Sean.

DRUMMOND - On February 24th 1991, at the Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion, Edinburgh, to Caroline and Bill, a son, Malcolm William Wyvis.

FARMILOE - On February 10th, to Helen (née Selka) and Paul, a daughter, Isobel Anne, a sister to Alice.

MARRIAGES

JONES:PELHAM - The marriage took place on Saturday February 23rd, in Islington, London, between Simon Jones, son of Dr and Mrs P.J. Jones, of Oxford and Alison Pelham, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.M. Stowe, of Pulborough, Sussex.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

SCHOFIELD:DAVIES - On St David's Day, 1951, in Edinburgh, Graham to Anne. Now at 36 Lumbag Road, Glasgow, G43 2RY.

DEATHS

BLAND - On Friday March 1st 1991, peacefully in Sidmouth, Leonard George, in his 84th year, late of Bland & Son, Notting Hill Gate, London W11 and East Acton. Husband of Dora and the late Lilian. Loved and loving father of Marion, grandfather of Nicholas, Amanda and Sacha. Cremation at Exeter on Wednesday March 6th at 10.45 am. No flowers, but donations to the Help the Hospice Fund, c/o National Westminster Bank, 62 High Street, Sidmouth, Devon, would be appreciated.

CAULFIELD - On February 27th, Edward, aged 90. Beloved and adoring husband of the late Charlotte (née Cunliffe), the eldest and dutiful son of the family of John and Catherine, inspiring brother and loving uncle. Fortified with the Rites of Holy Church. Requiem Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady's Catholic Church, Portico, Eccleston Park, Merseyside, at 11.30 am on Wednesday March 6th and interment will follow at St Helens Cemetery.

DICKSON - On February 27th 1991, peacefully at his home after a short illness, Wing Commander John A. Dickson O.B.E., M.A., formerly of Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall. Funeral Service at Central Hall Methodist Church, Ablewell Street, on Monday March 11th at 11.45 am, followed by cremation at Streetly Crematorium. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be made to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund or The Association for International Cancer Research via the School Office, Queen Mary's Grammar School, Sutton Road, Walsall.

DRUMMOND - On February 27th 1991, peacefully in a nursing home, Mary Evelyn Drummond, in her 84th year. Formerly of Weston Underwood. Much loved by her family. Funeral Service at Milton Ernest Church on Thursday March 7th at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations if desired for the Alzheimers Disease Society may be sent c/o Arnolds Funeral Service, 48 Roff Avenue, Bedford MK41 7TE. Tel: (0234) 359529.

EYNON - On February 25th in hospital after a short illness, Richard James Eynon MBE. The Mass takes place at St. Josephs Church, Guildford on Monday March 4th at 10am followed by private cremation. Flowers to Ayling's 0483 67333.

FREEMAN - On February 26th 1991, suddenly, John Mitchell, husband of Jill, father of Dorothy, Avril, John and David. Service at St George's Church, Radford Avenue, Kidderminster, at 1.15 pm on March 6th, followed by cremation at Stourbridge Crematorium.

GRAEME - On February 26th 1991, peacefully at Gillingham, Dorset, Joyce (Platts). Ballet dancer and beloved aunt, great-aunt, sister-in-law and friend. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Friday March 8th at 12 noon. Memorial Service later. Donations if wished to the Royal Ballet Benevolent Fund, 5 Cyrillian House, Mulgrave Road, Sutton, Sy.

HARRISON - On February 24th, in his 64th year, after a long illness, H. Peter Harrison FRIBA, of Paunat, Dordogne, loving husband of Shelagh and father of Stephen, Adrian, Timothy and Dominic.

KAVANAGH - On Wednesday February 27th, after much suffering, Charles, Cmdr. Royal Navy (retired). Devoted husband of Joanne, father of Anthony, Nicholas and Jeremy, grandfather of Anna and Nicole and brother of Anne. Funeral, March 7th, immediate family only. No flowers but your prayers please and if desired donations to British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association (BLESMA), c/o Midland Bank, London EC1A 9DX.

LAWTON - On February 27th 1991, Edward Oldroyd, peacefully at home, Bridge House, Brockford. Loved and loving husband of Jean, father of Bo, Tiz and John. Grandpa of Anna, Thomas, Sam, Alice, Joe, Amy and William. Service to be held on March 6th 1991 at All Saints Church, Wetheringsett at 1.30 pm, followed by cremation at Ipswich Crematorium West Chapel at 2.45 pm. Flowers please to Meredith Greengrass Funeral Service, 9 Marriotts Walk, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

McCLOSKEY - On February 28th, peacefully at home in West Haddon, Northamptonshire, Edith Gertrude, aged 87 Widow of Dr. Raymond Joseph McCloskey and beloved mother of Jane, Mary, Helen, Una, Ita and Gerard. Funeral at St Mary's Catholic Church, Brewood, Staffordshire, at 11.30 am on Friday March 8th.

MORGAN - On February 27th 1991, peacefully at St Luke's Hospice, Graham Thomas, of Yelverton, Devon and former Chairman of the Wrigley Company. Much loved husband of Pat, beloved father of Jeremy and Sarah and devoted grandfather of Rhys. Funeral Service at St Paul's Church, Yelverton, Devon, on Wednesday March 6th 1991 at 12 noon, followed by a private cremation. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to St Luke's Hospice, Plymouth, may be sent to Walter Parson Funeral Directors, The Firs, 702 Budshead Road, Crownhill, Plymouth PL6 5DY (0752) 767676.

SWANN - On February 23rd in Hythe, Kent, Edith Marjorie Graholm aged 95 years, last surviving child of Frederick and Edith Swann. Service at the Quaker Meeting House, Harbour Way, Folkestone on Friday March 1st at 1.40pm followed by cremation at Hawkinge.

OAKLEY - On February 23rd, in hospital, John Robert, aged 54, of Milford, Godalming. Funeral Service at West Herts Crematorium, Garston, at 11 am on Tuesday March 5th. Enquiries to Phillips Funeral Services, St Albans, (0727) 51006.

PALMER - On February 27th 1991, after a long illness, Mrs Doris (Dee Armour), at Meadbank Nursing Home, London. Cremation at Putney Vale Cemetery, Wednesday March 6th at 1.40 pm. Flowers to Larners Funeral Parlour, 117 Falcon Road, London SW11.

THORPE - On February 28th, peacefully, Frances Margaret, aged 84 years, dearly beloved wife of John Leslie, much loved mother and grandmother. Service at York Crematorium on Tuesday March 5th at 1 pm. Family flowers only please, donations in lieu if so desired to be shared by the R.N.L.I. and Salvation Army. Plate provided at Crematorium.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

EYRES - A solemn requiem mass for Mr Stephen Eyres will take place at 2 pm on Wednesday March 6th at St Mary's, Bourne Street, London SW1.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

COWELL - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Hilda Mary Cowell will be held at 11.30 am on Monday March 18th at Holy Trinity Church, Southend-on-Sea.

TWENTYMAN TURNBULL - A Memorial Service for the late S. John Twentyman Turnbull will now be on Saturday 1st June 2.15pm at Dagnall Street Baptist Church, St. Albans.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

INSTONE - In loving memory of Sir Samuel and Lady Instone on this their Wedding Anniversary and remembering with love also our sisters Anna and Theo.

SWORDER - Erica Ann, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D. Killed in the Paris Air Disaster of March 3rd 1974. Remembered with love by all the family.

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.

For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00pm Monday to Thursday, 4pm Friday, 9.30am-1.00pm Saturday for Monday's paper.

071 481 4000

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CHAMIER - Tercentenary. Descendants of Daniel Chamier Huguenot, who arrived with his family in England in 1691, are invited to a celebratory luncheon on March 23rd. Details from Chamier, 9 Sherlock Road, Cambridge CB3 0HR. Tel:0223-354 563.

GERMAN Student (16) seeks Paying Guest hospitality here over Easter. (0663) 732074.

RESEARCHER wishes to contact Leamington Spa Building Society borrowers who are in arrears or have had their homes repossessed. Please Reply to Box No 2960

ST. JUDE - Gives favours to those who ask. A.C.S. (Ex).

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

AILSA wishing you a very happy 18th birthday. With love, Alvar.

ANDY-CAPP originals for sale. Details: NW, 9 Temple Street, Pill, Newport, Gwent.

2-BED house to let Leatherhead, Surrey. All mod-cons £550 pcm. Tel: 0372 378066 eves

BMW 316 4 door vgc Black. For very quick sell will take £7,000. For cash £6,800 081 203 1103

BYCYCLE Raleigh Vitesse Racer lightweight 531 etc. £250 ono. Tel. 0949 839985 (Nottingham)

CHIN-AI my darling wife happy birthday, wiser and cuter everyday - Love Hubby

CHRISTOPHER Huw Malden, self acclaimed superstar, 18 on st Davids day 1991 - Cheers.

CLOUT David birthday greetings from yur Mum if you can remember her!

CONGATULATIONS Shaun Bolton and Louise Brook on your engagement. Good luck always.

CONGRATULATIONS Alex and Sue on the birth of Joe Allan-Nagy 14.2.91

COUPLE seek summer vacation employment. Contact Colin, 7 Field Street, Felling, Gateshead

CROWN personal CD/radio good cond. Offers. Tel: 0542 34182

DESPERATELY seeking George Michael tickets Please! Contact Iffat on (0483) 769164 eves.

STUDENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

DOGGS happy 30th birthday from a Puffin. Keep playing the loud music!

ELECTRONIC Gem 108 organ. Exc. cond. with stand, pedal, stool. 61 keys. 0742 752094

FLORIDA Disney 1/2 hr. luxury villa; sleeps 8, pool, tranquil location. 03212 6970

HAPPY late birthday Neil Rodaway in Australia. Love Ann, Terry, Debbie Reynolds x

HARD working stud couple seek summer work. Anything considered. 0483 448257 Natasha

HENDON room for prf. £70 wrwm, clean. 081 202 2990 after 8.

HOUSE (4 bed) required for rent, central Cambridge from October '91. Mr Gregg 0788 832683

IN THE man who shot the boss ... Hustlin, hustlin, from behind.

LAW lecturer reqd on weekends for tuition in Criminal Law & Tort. Tel Juliet 0533 742046

LEOPARD fun fake coat. As new Terence Nolder size 16. £90 snip 099 382 2276

LONDON weekend luxury 4 bed, 2 bath, furnished flat £650 pwk. Phone 0923 856017

MANCHESTER B n B's addresses needed summer 1991. Tel: Sarah 0296 711015

MARBELLA luxury apartment sleeps 2. Centrally situated long /short lets. 081 588 0075 eves

MENSA mags 1981 - present. Complete will split offers. 9 Molton Rd, B'ham B14 7DA

MINI clubman estate MOT'd June, W reg. New eng. exhaust, battery £600. Tel 0966 73179

MY NAUGHTY little sister Leana. Happy 3rd birthday. Lots of love, Neal

NISSAN Sunny 1.5. T&T. tints, alloys, new clutch, brakes, low mile. £1785ono. 061 224 8038

PSYCHICAL research material required in exchange for similar. 081 693 8532

RACHEL Townsend happy eighteenth 27-2-91. Good luck love Robert Pauline Bogart Rex

RECORD collection for sale SAE. Maurice Troughton 2 Dorchester Avenue Portadown, N.I.

RESPONSIBLE clean-living student with refs seeks dble room in or nr Harrow. 081 446 8985

REWARD! Stolen Roberts Mtn bike. Pink/yellow/white frame. No. 8536. 081 460 8040

SADLIK. Mum and Dad. Happy anniversary. Lots of love, Neil and Sarah

SHARE your fuel bill. lifts wanted between Aylesbury & London. Tel: Mark (0924) 464997

STEPHEN. On our anniversary thank you for four happy years. Love Rebecca

2 STUDENTS, 20, require resident position July-Sept. Non-smokers, drivers: 0904 411550

STUDENT seeks business placement for one year starting summer. Paul (0202) 394888

STUDENT requires Easter/Summer work, have own PC Computer. Ring 08444 4659

TEMP work sought (3 mths) asap. Anything, anywhere considered. Tel: 0222 732285 Cardiff

TO FLAPS love you forever. Happy birthday to Alemf.

TUITION required for A level Psychology student (Bath) March - June. Tel 0761 70011

TUITION required for A level Business Studies student (Bath) March - June. Tel 0761 70011

TWO experienced barmen seek interesting work over summer vacation. Tel: 0533 811273

UNDERGRAD seeks sponsorship to complete Euro Management studs in France. 0908 368574

BIRTHDAYS

CHRISTINE: Skinner - No longer an infant. Congratulations and love from the parents.

MURIEL WOODWARD Oh, you know what you've done, you've made it to 60, now it's time for some Fun !!!! Love from The Gang of Four.

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London SW19 1PS

NANNY TIMES

AU PAIR or nanny for new born and 2 yr old. Centre of Paris. From September '91. Write c/o Mr Chauvet, 18 rue Gaston de Caillavet, 75015 Paris.

WANTED

TICKETS FOR SALE

When responding to advertisements readers are advised to establish the face value and full details of tickets before entering into any commitment.

WANTED

Secluded cottage from May-September. West Country preferred.

Tel:071-730 3640 (office hours).

ARCHITECT Male. N/s in W1, for 4 days per week seeks a/c accommodation. Contact Ingurel 071-833 3989 Office.

CATHERINE WALKER Ivory lace sheath wedding dress, size 12. Tel: (0502) 711743.

DININGROOM Table & Chairs to seat at least 10. Traditional style. Driving distance from London. Tel: 081 989 2164

FOR SALE

TICKETS FOR SALE

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ABIRTH-DATE Newspaper. Original. Superb presentations. Freephone 0800 181803.

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ALL TICKETS Phantom, Saigon, Les Mis, G Michael, Clapton /Simon/Stewart. All Rugby Ints American Wrest CC'S acc. 071 925 0085/930 0800.

BIRTHDATE NEWSPAPERS and Newsprints from £10.00. The quality service. Press Archives.Tel (0732) 63355.

OLD & NEW york, french & pennant stone flagstones, floor tiles, stone troughs, victorian brick, cobble sets etc. Nationwide deliveries: 0380 850039 (Wilts)

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BOSENDORFER Grand piano, model 170 number 33139 (1980). High polish Mahogany. Immaculate £14,750 Tel: 0247 853637.

STEINWAY Concert Grand, excellent condition, 7'3" to rent £100 pcm. 071-833 8177.

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A PERFECT MATCH - Dinner Parties for single business and professional people. Join us and make new friends of the opposite sex. Call 071-722 7209.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD. reserves the right to refuse any advertisement put forward for publication in these columns. The use of a Box number is recommended when advertising. Before replying to any advertisement in these columns, please take all normal precautionary measures, as Times Newspapers Ltd. cannot be held responsible for any action or loss resulting from an advertisement carried in these columns.

TWO

BEING SINGLE IS FINE'
As they walked, wet pavements
BUT NOT ALWAYS IDEAL
winked in neon lights and old
MEETING SOMEONE
friends turn and smile while
SPECIAL
starlings wash the purple dusk
ISN'T ALWAYS EASY
with memories of moments shared.
WE UNDERSTAND
Breath comes soft as
CALL US AT
silent pools.
BOND STREET
Fingers touch, hands hold.
071-493 4413
something stirs. That's two

TWO

Bringing one and one together
Selective Introductions

ARE YOU AN EXCEPTIONAL WOMAN?

With style & distinction? Attractive in looks/ personality? Between 30/40? An independent spirit? Young at heart? Intelligent, well educated, adventurous? Fit, healthy, non smoker.

I am a successful businessman, 40's, financially/ emotionally stable, very fit, with high standards, loving both the finer things in life & the great outdoors. I desire harmony and a caring/ sharing relationship where mutual respect is paramount.

Every letter (with photo please) will be answered.

Please Reply to Box No 2965

ALONE On holiday - that's no fun. DayDreams organise scooner parties and group holidays for discerning travellers. Why not join one, enjoy good company and make new friends. DayDreams Travel for details 071 637 8921/631 4436

A MAN (55-65), enterprising, charming and successful is wanted to share loving, fulfilling future with responsive, attractive, financially secure lady. Photo appreciated. Please reply to Box No 2929

ATTRACTIVE lady, young forties, non-smoker, enjoys the arts, travel and tennis, wishes to meet similar good humoured gentleman in London/Sussex area to share good times. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 2928.

ATTRACTIVE intelligent Swiss lady seeks mature Swiss German male, n/s for a new start in life. Reply to Box No 2937.

CHARMING - Petite Cheshire Lady (35).Sincere & affectionate. Loves concerts, Opera & Theatre. Seeks sincere, Warm, Cultured Gentleman. For cheerful company/ Romance. Please Reply to Box No 2957

CITY BANKER - 54. Seeks elegant Lady of leisure and travel, requiring tender loving care and participative management of family and resources of permanent sharing relationship. Please Reply to Box No 2971

ECCENTRIC Woman, 57, wishes to be companion to caring man. 47-55. Please Reply to Box No 2966

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

SARA EDEN INTRODUCTIONS AT LAST!

You've realised, you can't leave your love life to chance! You're attractive, successful and intelligent and you care about the type of people you meet.
CHOICE not CHANCE is what's on offer at SARA EDEN...
Come and see for yourself...
Windsor (0753) 830380
Beautiful friendships start here! (Daily Mail, April 1990).
Member A.B.I.A.

SERENDIPITY

1. Video redundant?
2. Always at home to watch your favourite programme?
3. On first name terms with the video shop?

If you answered yes to any of the above, it's time to call us!!

Social Events & Personal Introductions for Single Jewish People.

071 - 624 0707 (24 hrs)

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Are you seeking personal and selective introductions to successful confident articulate and attractive people looking for loving, lasting relationship? Over 24 years Dateline's vast and national membership has proved the right choice for countless thousands. You too can find love. Call 071 938 1011 or write to 23 Abingdon Road, Kensington, London W8 6AL.

JUST HOW DO YOU MEET THE RIGHT PERSON?

Call Jennifer Wills for a straight talking introduction service 071 287 0935

ENVIRONMENTALLY friendly gentle man with sensitivity, intelligence and humour needed to breath fresh air into my life. This mature, attractive, articulate working woman would appreciate your having interests beyond self, preferably age 45-55, relaxed in the country yet with a touch of city sophistication. If the arts, travel, cricket, cats, good food, walking and talking also appeal then maybe your life could be equally enhanced. (Non-smoker only) Please Reply to Box No 2947

EUROPEAN attractive lady, 32, sophisticated, stylish, well-travelled, professional, new in London, seeks gentleman for company/romance. London replies only. Photo essential. Please Reply to Box No 2962

FRANCOPHILE attractive red based 5ft 4" seeks adventurous male 45-55. N/S, to share life with. Interests: dancing, theatre, keen walker, off beat travel. Please Reply to Box No 2898

GENTLEMEN who prefer blondes need not apply. I am of Indian West European background aged 26, 5' 7" tall, slim, vegetarian, N/S and seek a tall unattached professional gentleman to be initially included in my circle of friends. Photo please. Reply to Box No 2923

GOOD natured Scottish gentleman seeks lady to love. Please Reply to Box No 2953.

HEATHER JENNER - The Marriage Bureau (est. 1939 Member SMB.) Why not let our experience help you find a partner? 124 New Bond St, W1. 071-629 9634.

LONDON BASED - Lady, (Antipodean) late 40s. Attractive, slim, lively, sophisticated and solvent. Enjoys travel, cultural events and people. Seeks professional gentleman who is intelligent, sincere and affectionate for companionship and perhaps more? Ability to communicate important. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 2972

LONDON based country loving professional lady, 50, wide interest, seeks intelligent male 45-65. Reply to Box No 2952

NOT FOR THE Faint-Hearted. A confidential personal service for business and professional people seeking a lasting relationship. Matchmakers Introductions 081 458 0246

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

SOCIABILITY with SELECTIVITY

Connections is the club for that important social connection. Whether it's to meet new friends, contacts or that special person. Connections has a range of fun events tailored to your specific needs.

For more details call us direct or listen to the information line

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P.L.U.?

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Personnel Introductions and a host of smart social occasions for very special, attractive, well educated, professional people.

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The thinking person's introduction agency.

"An upmarket, personalised service" The Times

For professional, creative and business people living in London and S. East

For a friendly consultation phone today

071 937 8880, 938 2151

Established 1984. Member ABIA

MALE - 37 delectable and delirious wants to move & be moved physically and intellectually by a very beautiful Lady 25/37. To stimulate and support existing qualities while creating happy & fulfilling values, photos please to Box No 2959.

OLD FRIENDS Civilised introductions for the over 40's - Countrywide, caring. Details: Anne Brent. Tel 071-226 5432.

OLD FRIENDS Civilised introductions for the over 40's - Countrywide, caring. Details: Anne Brent. tel 071-226 8432.

OUTGOING unattached people to start dining club in Midlands. Tel: (0299) 404661 No fees.

PERSONAL Introductions through Pyramus & Thisbe, member ABIA. 071-286 1824.

RETIRED lady, Surrey based (Esher area) seeks lady to share interests eg garden and house visiting, dogs, cards etc. Please Reply to Box No 2954

'THE ULTIMATE in small, made-to-measure marriage bureaux' (S.Tel.) Est. 1960. Katharine Allen, 18 Thayer St, London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3115

TWO very attractive good fun young ladies looking for 2 attractive gentlemen aged 28-40, must have a sense of humour. Photograph appreciated: reply to Box No 2914

URGENTLY required: enthusiastic English gentleman, very presentable, over 55 years (preferably widower), educated, cultured, fun loving; by feminine, sensual, slim, artistic, caring widow, for fun loving relationship. Photo please, returned. Southern England. Please Reply to Box No 2964

WELL educated lady (mid 50's) wishes to meet professional man of similar age. Home owner, Amersham. Non-smoker, seeks someone affectionate and caring in the hope of forming a long-term relationship. Reply to Box No 2913

WHITE KNIGHT. Sincere businessman, 38, seeks a society woman of beauty and depth.

WIDOWER with young children seeks mate, probably in similar circumstances, for fresh start. Ready for bold moves. Please reply to box no 2920.

WIFE Sought by single 37 year old (Birmingham) city (Non) slicker. Must like Cathedral choirs, Cliff Richard, country walks, children and chuffer trains. Being slightly mad will help. Apply in writing to Box No 2902.

YOUNG Doctor in his 50's, midlands, seeks the company of a friendly attractive young lady. Please send photo with reply to Box No 2900

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

SELECT GAY INTRODUCTIONS

A confidential, personal service for business, professionals.
All clients interviewed.
Ensure you ask reception for

NEW HORIZONS
Tel: 071-483-2281
(9am-5.30pm Mon-Fri)
071-586-1128 (24hrs)

WE DON'T DATE

and we won't marry you off, but we will find you lots of friends with

NO STRINGS ATTACHED.

We arrange Social events, monthly get-togethers and exclusive holidays.

Phone today and speak to Gwen, 081-455 4703

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BATTERSEA PARK (overlooking). Prof m/f share v.nice, v.large, lux flat. £100 pw + bills. Tel:071-622 7674

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HAMPSTEAD HEATH Dble rm in pretty flat, CH, WM, exc cond. Share with F 26 interest arts. £260 pcm. 081-458 7630

KINGSTON Prof person requires share for large comf. flat. Sense of humour essential. Cleaner & ironing avail. BR close, 25 mins Victoria. Dbl. room £60 pw + bills. 081-549 1184.

PUTNEY. House. 2 double bedrooms to let, individually or together. Owner trying to sell therefore rent only £275 pcm each. Guaranteed at least 2 months let. Probably much longer! 081-788 2480.

PUTNEY N/S F prof share attractive 3 bed flat, own furn rm. Nr tube/BR, Tennis crt. £55 pw excl. Tel: 081 877 0870.

RENTALS

ACCOMMODATION Urgently req for City Institutions. Call us with your properties to let Sebastian Estates 071 381 4998

BATTERSEA — Superb spacious 2 bed luxury flat. River views. £200 p.w. Tel:071-493 9090 ex 346 (W) or 071-350 2249 (H).

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1 BED Quiet Mews Flat, all machines. Secure. 3 mins Bond St. £225 pw. Tel: 081-968 0425.

BELGRAVIA Spacious mews house. Double drawing room, dining room, fitted kitchen. Double bedroom, en-suite bathroom with jacuzzi. 2 smaller bedrooms, 2nd bathroom, Balcony. £525pw Tel: 081 671 2056, 0594 32348.

BELSIZE PARK Large bright studio flat, suit single or couple. £150 pw. Tel: 071 794 3143.

CHELSEA Off Kings Road, quiet 3rd floor, 1/2 beds, CH, large S. facing recep. Porter. £240pw. Tel 071-221 5915

CHELSEA Extra light lux balcony apt. Dble bedrm, lge recep, lifts, porters. 071-622 5825

FULHAM SW6: Grd flr apt, 2 beds, 2 baths (1 en-suite). Living/ dining rm. Porterage, parking, access gdns & leisure complex inc s/pool & gym £280 pw Parkvale on 0491 6415756

GROVE PARK, SE5. Brand new lux garden flat with new appliances, 2 dble bedrms, 3 stops to City. 071-274 5126.

HOLLAND PARK newly conv 2 bd flat (1 dbl, 1 sgl) with garden. £260pw 071 229 0035.

KENSINGTON W8: Quality 1st flr apt 2 beds, 2 baths (1 ensuite). Lge living/ dining + Kit/brkfst rm. £450 pw. Parkvale on (0491) 641576.

KENSINGTON Charming one bedroom flat in gdn square. £155pw. 071 373 3433.

LONSDALESQUARE-N.1.Close City. Super well equipped lux 1 bed flat. Own ent. £185 p.w. Tel:081-884 3344 (Pager A5162). or 071-609 0068.

MARBLE ARCH, Mayfair, Hyde Park. The finest selection of luxury long and short lets. Friendly service & advice. Seasonal discounts. Globe Apartments. 071-935 9512 (est 1980)

S. KENSINGTON SW7: Immac. Grd & L/grd mais. 3 beds, 2 baths, living + dining rm + terrace & garden. £440 pw Parkvale (0491) 641576

SELF con small bedsit and bathroom, suit 1 person, fully equipped. NW5. £80 pw. Ring: 071 284 1744.

SPACIOUS 2nd floor 3 double bedroomed apartment, fully furnished, well located NW3, references required. £278 weekly. Tel 071-586 3330.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD nr High Street. Excellent int. design apartment. 3 beds, 2 baths, large rec., etc. Parking. £350 pw. Co. let preferred. Tel: 071 937 3601

RENTALS

ST JOHNS WOOD. Cls Avenue Rd/ Parks. Lux furn 2 dble bed flat. £235 pw. 071-586 6355.

SW10 Pretty 2 bed, unfurnished flat. £190 pw. Tel: 071-362 3027 or (0654) 82774.

WANDSWORTH - Dble rm in lge luxurious hse close to common. £300 pcm. 081-871 9146.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

BUTLER/HOUSEMAN required urgently for highly successful business family in Stuttgart Germany. Must be dedicated, flexible and long term commitment required. Salary high. Telephone: Hampshire Private Service 0703 233525

SITUATIONS WANTED

MATURE couple seek position South of France, cook/ housekeeper, handyman all trades/ houseman/driver/security. 14 yrs private service. Excellent refs. Reply to Box No 2967

LEGAL NOTICES

TO PLACE YOUR LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICE IN THE TIMES

PLEASE TELEPHONE
DEBRA GYNN ON
071-782 7344
FAX 071-782 7730

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
BUTLERS WHARF LIMITED
(In administrative receivership)

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 at The Lecture Theatre, Design Museum, Shad Thames, London, SE1 on 15 March 1991 at 10.00 am for the purposes mentioned in S.48(2) and S49 of that Act.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.

Creditors who intend to vote at the meeting should note the following:

(a) Written statements of claim must be lodged with the joint administrative receivers by 12 noon on the day before the meeting at Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London, SE1 7EU.
(b) Proxies for use at the meeting must also be lodged with the joint administrative receivers.
(c) Please use the following reference: YS/AJRW/NJH/R2084

N J HAMILTON
AND A R BLOOM
Joint Administrative Receivers
28 February 1991

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified: after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

COLLYER FREDERICK VICTOR CYRIL of 43 Yew Tree Walk, Hounslow, Middlesex, died on 20th December 1990. Particulars to GODFREY DAVIS & BALDWIN, Solicitors of 19A Upper Green East, Mitcham, CR4 2XD, before 3rd May 1991.

GOODSON JOHN HERBERT of Norfolk Rest Home, 19 Overton Road, Sutton, Surrey Formerly of 14 Edgehill Road, Mitcham, Surrey, died on 1st January 1991. Particulars to Godfrey Davis & Baldwin, Solicitors of 19A Upper Green East, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 2XD before 10th May 1991

GREEN KATHLEEN VERA of ST GEORGES HOSPITAL, TOOTING, LONDON SW17 formerly of 7-8 CHELSEA CLOISTERS, SLOANE AVENUE, LONDON SW3 died on 10th August 1990. Particulars to GODFREY DAVIS & BALDWIN, Solicitors of 19A Upper Green East, Mitcham, CR4 2XD before 10th May 1991.

SCOTT, ARTHUR of 44 ELMFIELD CRESCENT, EXMOUTH, DEVON died on 4th September 1990. Particulars to Godfrey, Davis & Baldwin, Solicitors of 19A Upper Green East, Mitcham, CR4 2XD before 10th May 1991.

SIMPSON FLORA EMILY of 12 CHISLET COURT PIER AVENUE HERNE BAY KENT CT6 9PD died on 2nd September 1990. Particulars to TROWERS & HAMLINS Solicitors of 6 NEW SQUARE LINCOLN'S INN LONDON WC2A 3RP (MXL 0021 1778 EP) before 3rd May 1991.

PATTERSON Ruth Helen of 5 Park Close, West Twyford, London NW10 died on 27th November 1990. Particulars to Trowers & Hamlins, Solicitors of 6 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3RP (ref: MXL 0021 1788.EP) before 4th May 1991.

MARCH 2

ON THIS DAY

1917

In calling for a better organization to deal with the rehabilitation of the wounded, the writer praised the active part played by King Manuel of Portugal, representative of the International Red Cross in this country. The number of British wounded by the end of the war was more than two million, in addition to nearly a million dead or missing.

BROKEN SOLDIERS

The soldiers now in our hospitals are the cream of our race. In their bodies they bear the heritage of all our endeavours since we became a people; the qualities which they incarnate are those that have upheld our name in strength and honour. They are our greatest asset, by comparison with which wealth and the machinery of war are insignificant. If the nation is to fill the place which these of her sons have won for her, they must be preserved and their capabilities realized. They must be won back from despondency and incapacity, restored to independence and usefulness.

Unhappily at this moment we seem to have failed to do our best by the disabled soldier, and in some cases it is to be feared that we have abandoned him to his fate under the specious pretext that when he ceased to be a soldier we had no further jurisdiction over him. We have let him go back home half-cured when we could have cured him completely. The new scale of pensions, it is true, offers payment for medical treatment, and by a clause withholding full pension if treatment is not accepted tends to ensure that a disabled man shall, if possible, be cured. But how he is to be cured he has not been told. No proper means have been put at his disposal.

Months ago *The Times* said that no definite steps had been taken to deal with this problem. Since then the number of disabled soldiers has increased by thousands, and still no clear, single policy has been stated, though various people have expressed pious hopes. The French Government has long ago made a beginning; long ago, too, our enemies began.

From every quarter appeals have come that something — anything rather than nothing — should be done. The Labour Party has spoken; the medical profession has spoken; Sir Alfred Keogh, Director-General of Army Medical Services, has spoken; the Statutory Committee on Pensions has spoken; but no Government action has resulted except the reiterated assurance of active consideration and a number of small local efforts under the Pensions Act.

This cannot continue unless we are to admit that we have become careless of our national honour. The time has come to stop expressing hope and to begin to do work. It is not doing work to send our disabled back to be treated as local sick under local doctors.

How is any real work to be done? In the first place it is clear that the Army has its hands full. The Medical Department of the War Office has performed miracles, but it cannot be expected to add to its burdens; all that we are entitled to ask of it is that it shall help those who may be charged with the new task of looking after the disabled, and that it has already expressed its readiness to do.

What is needed is a new department, related to the Army Medical Service, but administered independently. This new department must receive the disabled man as he leaves the Army, and must possess some well-defined powers in regard to him. It must be able to direct him to treatment, and it must be able also to help him to suitable employment both during and after treatment. Happily in the new pensions scale some provision is made for the care of wife and children while a man is undergoing treatment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OXFAM

HAVE YOU MADE A WILL?

It can save possible hardship and misunderstanding later on, so why not send for

Oxfam's WILL ADVICE PACK?

It's written in plain English, gives down to earth practical guidance shows how Wills present one of the easiest and most effective ways to help people in need - and it's free.

Contact:
Lucille Goodwin, Oxfam LG74
FREEPOST, Oxford OX2 7BR
Tel: (0865) 510505.

THE RAF RISES TO THE CHALLENGE

From 1919 the Fund has been helping RAF Members, their widows and children including many thousands disabled during the last war, during training and now, today, in the conflict in the Gulf. Last year over £275 million was needed to help over 16,000 cases.
Please help with a donation or remember us in your will.

Will you rise to the challenge, too?

THE ROYAL AIR FORCE BENEVOLENT FUND
DEPT 4TT, 67 PORTLAND PLACE, LONDON W1N 4AR

ARTHRITIS RESEARCH

No other legacy can help so many people

Please, a donation to help Arthritis Research now: a legacy to help us in the future.

THE ARTHRITIS & RHEUMATISM COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH
Dept.TT, 41 Eagle Street, London WC1R 4AR

Working to find an earlier cure

FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY

do care for the elderly.
Please be a friend and send a donation to Sir John Milne (Chairman)
42 EBURY STREET
LONDON
SW1W 0LZ

Help MEDICINE

fight the tasks of disease

We need your help to continue vital work — for cure, care, prevention and rehabilitation.

Our reports on 'Smoking' and 'Alcohol Abuse' helped millions. Please support us with a donation or legacy. We depend entirely on charity.

'Help Medicine' Appeal Fund
ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
11 St Andrews Place, London NW1 4LE

AVERT
The AIDS Research Charity

your support is vital...

...for our research and education work
Please send your donation to:
AVERT
AIDS EDUCATION & RESEARCH TRUST

Imperial Cancer Research Fund

No-one is more likely to prove there is life after cancer than us, the largest independent cancer research organisation in Europe. Over 90% of your donation or legacy goes directly to research.
Send to: PO BOX 123, Room DM1,
Lincoln's Inn Field,
London WC2A 3PX.
Credit cards: Dial 100 and ask for Freefone Cancer.

CHARITY APPEALS

BATTLE HONOURS

- BRUNEVAL
- OUDNA
- TAMERA
- PRIMOSOLE BRIDGE
- NORMANDY LANDINGS
- BREVILLE
- SOUTHERN FRANCE
- ARNHEM
- ATHENS
- RHINE
- FALKLAND ISLANDS

FOR 50 YEARS Britain's Airborne soldiers have given of their best.
Please do your best to help all those now in need with a donation, or remember us in your will.

THE WEEK'S GOOD CAUSE – TOMORROW 8.50am RADIO 4

THE AIRBORNE FORCES GOLDEN JUBILEE APPEAL
BROWNING BARRACKS, ALDERSHOT, HANTS. GU11 2BU   REGISTERED CHARITY: 800342

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

GOURDE
(b) A monetary unit of Haiti, consisting of 100 centimes, the French form of *gourd*, from the Latin *surdus* dull, stupid: "Gourde, the Franco-American name for a dollar, in use in Louisiana, Cuba, Haiti, etc."

PUNDONOR
(a) Point of honour, ferocious machismo and pride, from the Spanish *Punto de honor*: Ernest Hemingway: "His body contains enough valour and pundonor to make a dozen bullfighters."

CUSTREL
(b) An attendant on a knight, a young apprentice to knighthood; a knave; from the Old French *coustillier* a dagger: "Now promoted to the dignity of custrel or shield-bearer."

NUMERATI
(a) Financial whizzkids, by analogy with *literati* and *glitterati*: "Amid the tales of corporate woe and personal ruin following the stock market crash, there is a promising medical prognosis from American doctors who have been monitoring the fallen numerati."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAKE A LOT OF CHILDREN HAPPY. MAKE A WILL.

The National Children's Bureau is creating and maintaining high standards in children's services, benefiting children all over the country.

But such important work needs money.

By remembering us in your will, you can help us do so much more.

Contact Karen England on 071-278 9441 for information.

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BUREAU
(Charity No. 258825)
8 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7QE

THE NATIONAL DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The National Deaf Children's Society is the only charity especially concerned with the needs of deaf children and their families. It provides advice and information for parents, teachers, audiologists and others and supports children by providing specialised equipment, holiday and welfare grants, education and recreation. Please write for an Annual Report to David Black.

THE NATIONAL DEAF CHILDREN'S SOCIETY
45 Hereford Road, London W2 5AH

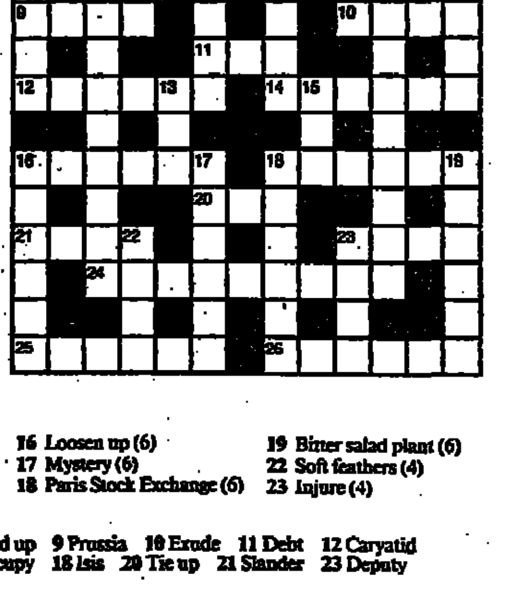
To Place Your Classified Advertisement

Please telephone the number listed below between 9am and 6pm Monday to Friday (late evening 7.30 pm on Thursday or between 9.30am and 1.00pm on Saturdays).

Private	071-481 4000
Trade Advertisers:	
Appointments	071-481 4481
Birth, Marriage and Death Notices	071-481 4000
Business to Business	071-481 1982
International Advertisers	071-481 3024
Motors	071-481 4422
Personal	071-481 1920
Property	071-481 1986
Public Appts & Education	071-481 1066
Travel	071-481 1989
U.K. Holidays	071-488 3698

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.
For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00pm Monday - Thursday
4.00pm Friday, 9.00 am-1.00pm Saturday for Monday's paper.
Marriage notices not appearing on the Court & Social Page may also be accepted by telephone.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2422



ACROSS
1 Cushioned (6)
4 Fix firmly (6)
7 Forcefully compel (9)
9 Tiny coin (4)
10 Recreation ground (4)
11 Cookpot (3)
12 Madness (6)
14 Soundtrack film (6)
16 Foolish (6)
18 Nibble (6)
20 Modern form (3)
21 Untamed (4)
23 Care (4)
24 Plattdeutsch (3,6)
25 Spanish chaperon (6)
26 Winter white stoat (6)

DOWN
1 Saddle front (6)
2 Love excessively (4)
3 Pendulous (6)
4 Heraldic silver (6)
5 Find fault (4)
6 Rile (6)
7 Play defensively (9)
8 Tom Sawyer author (4,5)
13 Long lettuce (3)
15 Ventilate (3)
16 Loosen up (6)
17 Mystery (6)
18 Paris Stock Exchange (6)
19 Bitter salad plant (6)
22 Soft feathers (4)
23 Injure (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 2421
ACROSS: 1 Fables 4 Send up 9 Prussia 10 Exude 11 Debt 12 Caryatid 14 Consternation 16 Reoccupy 18 Isis 20 Tie up 21 Slander 23 Deputy 24 Glared
DOWN: 1 Fop 2 Bourbon 3 Easy 5 Everyday 6 Doubt 7 Pleadings 8 Malapropism 11 Decorated 13 Stockpot 15 Insider 17 One up 19 Mall 22 Rod

MARC ASPLAND

Baptism of steam: the Rev Ted Hamer says: "I don't think it's a coincidence that a lot of hell-fire sermons were preached when there were so many steam engines around"

The strait and narrow gauge

In a tradition both ancient and modern, the Rev Ted Hamer is launching a mission of evangelism in steam, George Hill reports

What is it between steam trains and ministers of religion? Some deep sense of affinity seems to draw parsons to firebox and footplate. It must be something to do with a correspondence between steam as a driving force and the spirit which bloweth where it listeth, or with the symbolism of rails guiding the soul to its predestined terminus.

The late Teddy Boston, the vicar of Cadby in Leicestershire, used to preach from the cab of his own engine, and would run it beside his churchyard, along a track whose gauge was appropriately strait and narrow. The late Eric Treacy, the bishop of Wakefield, was the author of several books of photographs of engines in action. The Rev W. Awdry, the creator of Thomas the Tank Engine, must have done more to promote awareness of steam traction among young readers than any other chronicler.

Now the Rev Ted Hamer, a Baptist minister, has launched a mission of practical evangelism in steam. He is offering instruction in the skills and pleasures of handling a steam locomotive, aboard his 76-year-old tank engine, Elsa, in a village garden near Canterbury. Guiding the eight-ton engine to and fro on a track he laid himself, he provides one-day hands-on courses on the footplate for anyone who has ever dreamt of being an engine driver.

Most railway parsons have a passion for steam that is essentially amateur, however active or scholarly it may be. Mr Hamer is a rare example of the opposite tendency: he began as a professional railwayman, and later went on to become a minister and schoolteacher. He saved Elsa from the scrapheap in 1985 while he was working in Zimbabwe, restored her, and brought her to Britain last year.

A wiry, bearded man in overalls, brandishing an oilcan, he has more the air of a railwayman when on the footplate than of a man of the cloth. "I have sometimes mentioned Elsa in sermons," he admits. "Look into the firebox there — it could inspire you to preach a lovely sermon on hell. I don't think it's a coincidence that a lot of hell-fire sermons were preached in the last century, when there were so many steam engines and blast furnaces around."

An apprentice taking the one-day course begins with cold and grimy tasks such as raking out the ash, laying a new fire, topping up the water tanks, polishing the brasswork and greasing the nipples. Meanwhile Mr Hamer explains how to operate the reverser and the regulator, two heavy levers which are the equivalents of the gear lever and throttle in a car.

Stephen Walker, apprentice for the day, has been given the course by his parents as an eighteenth birthday present. "I am studying to work on the railways myself, but I don't expect I'll often have the chance to drive something like this," he says.

Gradually Elsa comes to life. It takes more than two hours to get up steam to a pressure which will start the wheels turning. At last Mr Hamer eases the regulator back, and the engine creeps forward in clouds of vapour, gasping and sighing, her steel elbows working like the elbows of a competitor in a walking race. Steam from the firebox head condenses in dew on the driver's sleeve.

These days, the end of the line for Elsa is only 50 yards from the start. Fifty yards of track is not far enough for her to pound along the rails at her theoretical top speed of 11mph, but it is enough for the basic routines of stopping, starting and reversing to be demonstrated, and the intricate stationary attentions that any steam engine requires if it is not to explode or crumble away in rust.

Next week Canterbury city council will hear a planning application from a local trust to set up a museum of working steam in a disused goods shed in Canterbury West railway station. If this project succeeds, Mr Hamer hopes that Elsa, with a retinue of small-gauge coaches, will be able to resume more extensive operations, as a passenger-carrying tourist attraction as well as a training ship.

Elsa was built in 1913, and worked for nearly 60 years in gold mines and logging camps in southern Africa. She carries an immense headlamp, necessary for irregular night-time working on single tracks through the bush, where another train, or an elephant, might loom out of the darkness at any moment.

Railway buffs would regard her as hardly bigger than a toy, but she moves with an impressive sense of weight, and of potentially destructive forces needing to be kept vigilantly under control. The art for us was to bring the eight tons of rolling steel to rest exactly beside the railway sleeper which was our only platform. Stephen handled the controls gently, but I heavy-handedly let in the clutch too fast, causing the wheels to spin on the rails, and a noisy jet of smoke to gush from the tall chimney so fiercely that it blew off a sooty object perched on top of it, looking like a giant tea strainer.

Luckily Elsa could operate without the tea strainer. Its purpose was not to stop birds nesting in the stack, as I had imagined, but to catch burning sparks which might set passing hayricks on fire. Mr Hamer looked round for hayricks, and allowed us to continue.

"Do you fancy a sausage?" he asked. We did. He opened the door of hell, and thrust a length of rail inside, with sausages in foil balanced on it. Waved just above the floor of glowing anthracite, they were soon sizzling merrily, like the souls of the damned. They tasted delicious. There must have been a moral in that somewhere.

- *Elsa Steam Railway, 36 Forty Acres Road, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7HL (0227 760928). A day's tuition for one person costs £45.*

Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney

Time to breed a rare good wife

I WAS looking through a list of rare breeds: species that once formed the basis of farming in Britain and which are now so few as to be endangered. To my amazement and regret, I found it did not include the Farmer's Wife. If anything is rare, she is.

There are many women who think they are farmers' wives, but are not. If asked what they do, they reply: "Oh, I'm a teacher and I'm married to a farmer." Or, further up the scale: "I sit on the local bench and do a lot for charity. We farm, y'know." Neither is the sort of lady I have in mind.

Real, pedigree Farmers' Wives collect fresh eggs each morning from speckled hens, wear their hair in a bun, bake bread in white aprons, and feed pigs with a smile. They ease the farmer's boots from his weary feet and darn the holes in his socks with wool they have spun. They know every lamb and tend the sick ones; they clank across the farmyard with pails of milk fresh from Buttercup. And do they ever utter a cross word? No. They are too potent ever to need to loose their tempers. For, apart from being the farmer's domestic servant and support, their rural ancestors have bred into them formidable powers.

FATSTOCK PRICES
RARE BREED SALE FARMER'S WIFE
14

The Farmer's Wife will happily leave her baking to face an angry bull, or put aside her mending when her rough-hewn figure of a husband summons her to the barn to help drag a half-born calf from its mother.

Yet beneath this toughened exterior smoulder womanly passions which no son of the soil can ignore . . . I'm sorry. I've been reading too much Thomas Hardy.

However, the farming family is not what it was. Take my own situation, for example. I have a fine wife, and no intention of finding another. But she would be the first to admit she is no Farmer's Wife. Early attempts ended in humiliation as she produced from the oven a noble attempt at a loaf of bread. She thought it looked rather good, considering: but at that moment the neighbour (a Farmer's Wife) burst in and said: "Oh dear, you've 'ad a bakin' accident."

However, she possesses great patience. She does not complain at having to sit next to me in heated cinemas, even when the stench starts to rise from my manured boots. She was in no way put out when I recently declined to escort her to a glittering literary dinner in favour of sitting with a farrowing sow. Such is her resignation that on a brief romantic trip to Venice she did not flinch when I pulled out my wallet in Harry's Bar and brought with it enough straw to deep-litter a cowshed.

She is even showing some positive promise as a helpmeet: after a spell during which the sheep escaped several times a day, she developed amazing reactions. One evening, I was phoning some friends and failed to get a reply. Casually I called: "I think they're out." In a flash she was through the door, waving a stick hysterically and shouting: "Where? Where are the woolly bastards now?" I doubt, anyway, whether I could do better on the open market. Indeed, I was shocked at the ad in *New Farmer and Grower* magazine in which some brazen woman wrote: "Well-conformed dam seeks pedigree sire of traditional breed to share good organic leys with a view to moving on to permanent pasture. Good performance testing essential. No bullocks."

Does this ad set the style of clinical courtship for the new farmer? Where is the stolen embrace behind the cart shed, the fleeting brush of lips behind the thrashing machine, the plighting of troths in hedgerows? I know that modern safety legislation frowns upon a tumble in the hay, and that a furtive glimpse of a milkmaid is not the same now that she sits at a computer console rather than on a stool. Even so, can you imagine Jill Archer placing such an ad to woo Phil?

However, rare breeds have to be saved and I must act. In addition to our Suffolk Punches, Red Poll cows and Large Black pigs I intend to rear a proper Farmer's Wife. As I have no desire for a change, the current one is going to have to learn a few tricks. I shall start by getting her used to being called "woman", and having to ease the boots nightly from my feet. Gradually I shall work up to suggesting she gather wool from the sheep to darn my socks. I am not certain how she will react, but if I am not here next week you will know why.

....TRAVEL STOP PRESS....

TRAVEL ABROAD

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CRETE	TUE, FRI	£129	£139	£145	£159	£129
CORFU	FRI, SAT, SUN, MON	£120	£135	£140	£155	£125
RHODES	WED, SAT	£135	£145	£155	£165	£139
KOS	WED, SAT	£135	£145	£155	£165	£139
MYKONOS	MON	£165	£179	£189	£219	£179
SKIATHOS	TUE, FRI	£149	£159	£169	£189	£165
CYPRUS	WED, SAT	£149	£169	£179	£209	£179
TENERIFE	TUE, FRI, SAT	£139	£155	£169	£189	£169
LAS PALMAS	MON	£139	£159	£169	£189	£169
LANZAROTE	MON, THUR	£135	£155	£160	£185	£165
ZANTE	SUN	£139	£149	£159	£179	£169
ALICANTE	TUE, SAT	£99	£109	£130	£150	£139
MALAGA	THUR, SAT, SUN	£99	£115	£145	£159	£139
PALMA	TUE, SAT	£99	£119	£139	£155	£135
MAHON	FRI, MON	£105	£115	£129	£149	£129
FARO	THUR, SAT, SUN	£115	£125	£129	£149	£139

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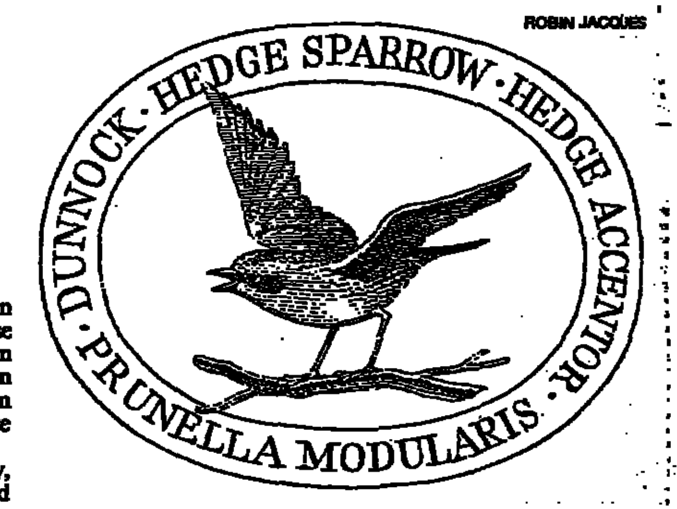
Feather report

A bird by any other name


DUNNOCK · HEDGE SPARROW · HEDGE ACCENTOR · PRUNELLA MODULARIS ·
ROBIN JACQUES

Hedging on names: but the world calls it *Prunella modularis*

I suppose, at a pinch, one could agree that one barn swallow doesn't make a summer, but when people want to refer to the nightingale — a bird that nothing common does or mean — as a *common* nightingale, I feel it is time to draw the line.

Even as I write, I can hear the hurried, sweet song of the hedge accentor, and the excited squeaking of a party of long-tailed bush-tits. In the garden, the European robin sings on, the acorn jay screams in the wood beyond, and a couple of ever canny black-billed magpie swoop down like paper aeroplanes.

Names! Names are part of our perception of the thing named: part, it seems, of the thing itself. The name dunnock reeks of homeliness and seems to express the bird's eternal nature. Hedge accentor, its suggested replacement, would take some getting used to.

There are powerful moves afoot to change the names of many of the birds on the British list: to rationalise, internationalise, and almost to common-marketise our birds. It is a task guaranteed to raise the hackles of the world. There is logic behind it. Of course there is. The last British list was drawn up by the records committee of the British Ornithologists Union (BOU) in 1971. Since then, we have had a revolution in British birding: travel. Those who have a passing interest in birds take a passing interest in the birds they encounter on holiday: birding holidays are big business.

I was in Florida recently, covering the Super Bowl, and managed to play truant and go birding. At once there were problems: is Florida's green-winged teal the same as what we Brits call a teal? Is a northern shoveler the same as a shoveler? Is an American wigeon the same as a wigeon? The answers are: yes, yes and of course not; use your eyes.

There is an easy way of checking this: no matter whether you call your bird teal or green-winged teal, the bird is always *Anas crecca*, and almost every bird book will tell you so. Scientific names are universal: that is their function. You can call a bird a dunnock, or a hedge sparrow (its former name) or a hedge accentor, but any ornithologist knows what you are talking about when you say that a *Prunella modularis* is singing its head off near the railway line.

We already have global consistency of nomenclature: however, the BOU felt that it was worth the trouble of eradicating the confusion of ordinary birding folk. It has since drawn up a list of suggested name changes, not just for British birds but for all the birds in the region.

However, all that work has been shelved. Last December, the International Ornithological Congress met in New Zealand and decided that it was such a good idea that consistency within the western Palaearctic was not enough.

The congress liked the idea of standardising the English names for all the birds in the world. A final list will be offered to the congress in eight years. I suppose it has a point, but like everyone else I instinctively reject the whole business. I spent much of last spring and summer watching avocets: I have no problem with *Recurvirostra avosetta*, but I could not feel happy calling them pied avocets.

To speak of bearded parrotbills will be hard: true, bearded tits are not tits (and nor are they bearded, they are moustached), but the new name seems awfully clumsy. No doubt for most birders they will be called what they always are: beardies.

You can make a rule about a name, but not about what things are actually called. Perhaps the imposition of intrusive standard names will see a rise in such unofficial nicknames: we already have sprawks and groppers and klutes and kipper gulls and redheads and ringtails — these being sparrowhawks, grasshopper warblers, avocets, herring gulls, female or immature smew, and ditto hen harrier.

Changing names by decree is one thing: getting them used is quite another. Hear that dunnock sing.

SIMON BARNES

- **What's about:** *Birders — Visit open water to watch ducks and grebes displaying. Twitchers — white-billed diver at Holyhead harbour, Anglesey. Lesser scap and Forster's tern in County Down, Northern Ireland. Details from Birdline, 0898 700222.*

Country events

THIS WEEKEND

■ **Avocets on the Exe estuary:** Three to four hour cruise on the *Devon Princess III* to see flocks of avocets and other wading birds feeding. Refreshments on board or take your own.
Exmouth dock, Exmouth, Devon. Today 2.20pm, tomorrow 2.45pm. Tickets must be pre-booked: 0392 432691. Adult £6.50, child £3.

■ **Narrow boat open weekends:** A chance to look at a range of holiday narrow boats and find out more about canal life. At Nantwich, there will be refreshments including hot mulled wine, discounts on holidays booked at both centres.
Nantwich Marina, Nantwich, Cheshire. Today, tomorrow. Details: 0270 625122. Bridgewater Boats, Castle Wharf, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. Tomorrow, details: 0442 863315.

■ **Gardening events:** Rock garden construction workshop today, 10am-noon, at Pershore College of Horticulture, Avonbank, Pershore, Worcestershire. Details: 0386 554609. At 2pm tomorrow, "pruning shrubs and trees" at Ness Gardens, Ness, Neston, South Wirral. Details: 051-336 2135.

■ **Guided walk:** Five mile medium walk with the theme "using our uplands".
Meet Holmridge post office, on the A6024 south west of Holmfirth nr Huddersfield, Yorkshire, tomorrow 1.15pm.

■ **Lambing Sunday:** Early spring opportunity to see lambing sheep, other farm animals and typical farm activities at this time of year.
Houghall Agricultural College, nr Durham. Tomorrow 1-5pm. Cars £1. No dogs. Details: 091-386 1351.

NEXT WEEK

■ **Cookery day:** Hintlesham's chefs raise the roof with soufflé demonstrations. Tour of the manor, three course lunch and drinks included in the price.
Hintlesham Hall, Hintlesham, Ipswich, Suffolk. Wed. Tickets, £37.50, booked on 047387 334.

■ **RHS events:** A garden walk at Harlow Carr, Crag Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, Thurs at 2pm. Details: 0423 565418. A vegetable plant raising workshop at Pershore College of Horticulture, Pershore, Wed 10am-4pm. Details: 0386 554609.

JUDY FROSHAUG

The ghost of Langham walks again

A new Hilton has risen from the body of one of the London's most famous and spectacular Victorian hotels. **Callum Murray** looks at what has survived and what has been lost in the process

On Monday the Langham Hotel in Portland Place, London opens for business as a hotel once more, following a 50-year enforced sabbatical. After wartime bombing demolished one corner of the building and fractured its main water tank, sending 38,000 gallons of water cascading through its seven floors, the hotel was closed to the public and used mainly as overflow office and studio space for the BBC. In 1985, however, it was sold to the Ladbroke Group for £26 million, to be converted into a hotel again. Ladbroke has since acquired Hilton International; so, when the hotel opens on Monday, it will be known as the Langham Hilton.

The restoration of the building has cost £80 million. It would be difficult to imagine a worse time than this to try to recoup such an investment, but the general manager, Rudi Jagersbacher, is not worried. "If I had here an ultra-modern block, it wouldn't have worked," he says. "But there is a trend to go back to traditional hotels."

The Langham was inaugurated the first time round on Saturday June 10, 1865, with a "private view" for the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII. An article in *The Times* predicted that the Langham, along with contemporaries such as the Great Western, the Westminster Palace and the Grosvenor hotels, would soon "not only be able to bear comparison but to defy comparison with any of the world".

The Langham terminates the vista looking from Regent's Park down Nash's broad and gracious Portland Place. There were few finer sites in London. But for a hotel which, from the start, stressed its solidly British qualities, the competition-winning design displayed a surprising mixture of European styles, with its Italian Renaissance campanile, Venetian Gothic windows on some bays, and Parisian mansard roofs. The architects were Giles and Murray, with some interior designs contributed by Owen Jones, the superintendent of the Great Exhibition of 1851 and the author of the influential source book, *The Grammar of Ornament.*

Jones's "Moorish" decorations were matched over the years by some exotic guests: Napoleon III, Oscar Wilde, John Everett Millais, Mark Twain, Antonin Dvořák and Noël Coward all stayed in the hotel. "You will find me at the Langham," announced one of Conan Doyle's characters in the first Sherlock Holmes story ever published, "under the name of the Count Van Kramm."

The building's restoration was a mighty job, involving both new building and refurbishment. The main facades — the north, looking up Portland Place, and the east, facing Nash's All Souls church — have been broadly retained by the architects, the Halpern Partnership. The eclectic style has been enthusiastically continued inside by the interior designer, Richmond Inston. The reception area is a lofty, arched, manorial space, its ceiling supported by columns apparently of stone, its fittings in solid mahogany. (Actually, the columns are of steel, covered with a rendering of plaster and Portland stone dust called "stuccopierre".) To the left, the Chukka Bar, a comfortable, clubby place, is decorated with polo helmets and mallets hung on hooks by the door, as if to suggest that their owners have stopped off after a hard chukka or two among the taxis and dispatch riders of Portland Place.

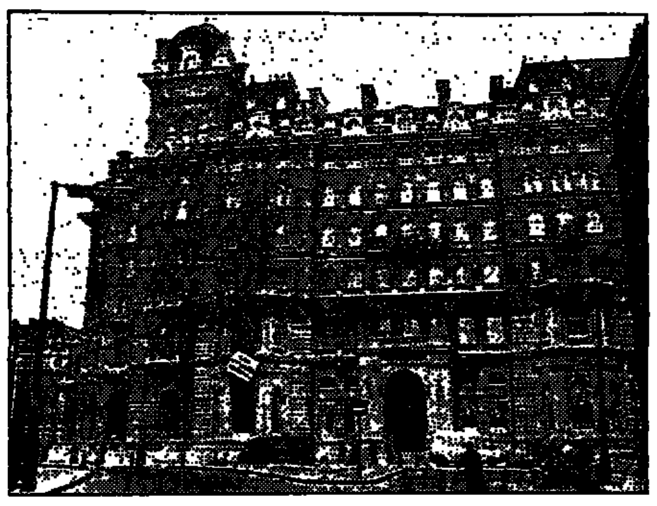
Ahead is the Palm Court, originally an open courtyard, but roofed over with an iron and glass canopy at the turn of the century. Situated in the heart of the building, this original courtyard had to be totally demolished, according to Gordon Thomson of the Halpern Partnership, so that cranes could be brought in to rebuild the south and west wings. The architects were asked by English Heritage to come up with a scheme in keeping with the original; and the result is a pleasant, open space with polycarbonate roof-lights.

The two main public areas are the listed banqueting and ballroom, and the Memories of Empire restaurant, with its splendid semi-circular bay window. In its last incarnation this was a less than charismatic BBC canteen. Now it has a hand-painted ceiling, a parquet floor, a curious "Moorish" screen concealing an exit, and a menu that will include dishes from China, India, Southeast Asia and the Middle East. The banqueting and ballroom is a magnificent room flanked by columns, with a coffered ceiling picked out in gold leaf.

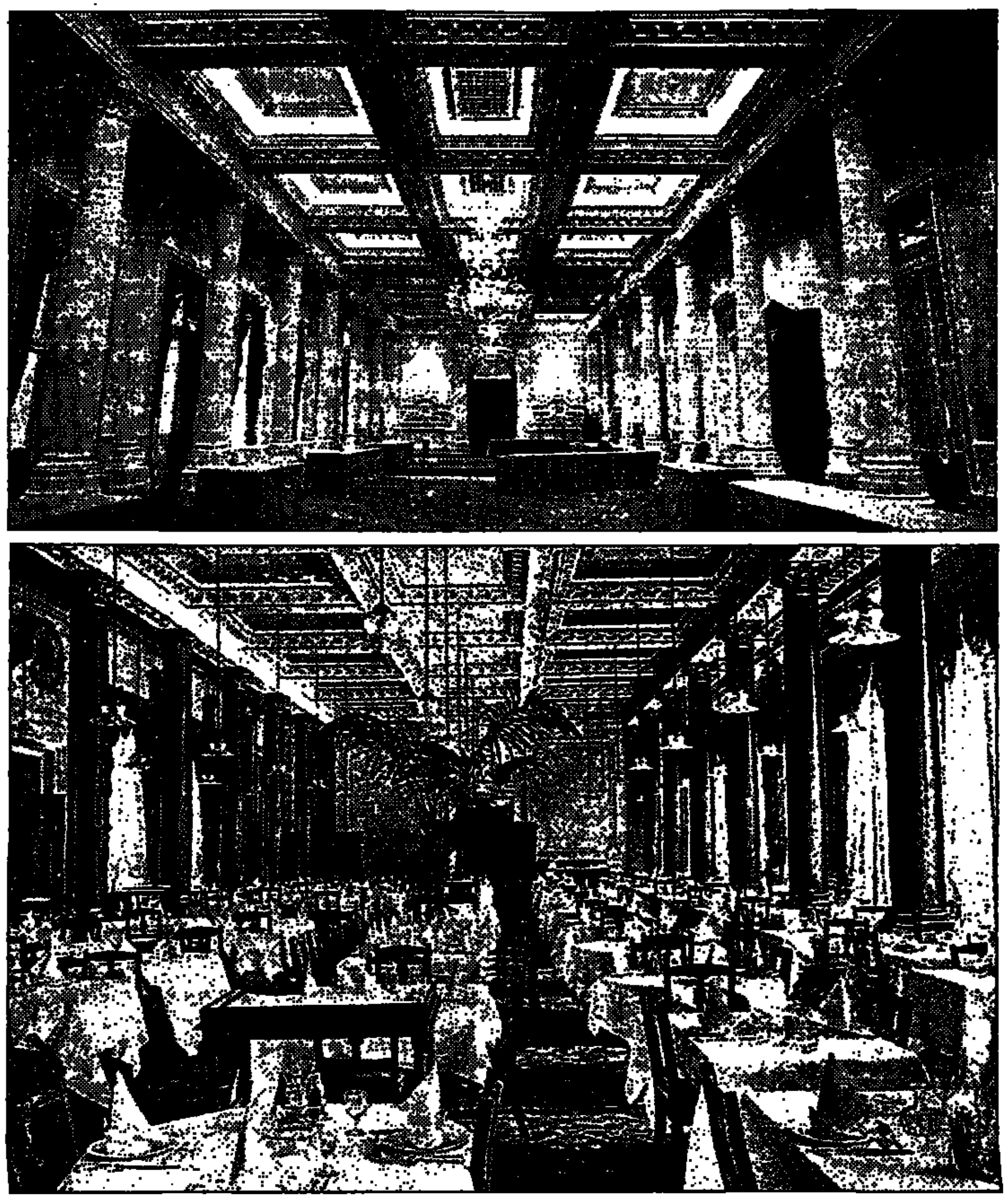
All this is unexceptionable. The materials are of good quality, and well detailed; the style shows imagination bordering on recklessness. But the fact is, this is still a Hilton hotel. Five-star or not, it is part of an international chain, with all that that implies for its design and decoration. True, you never get the feeling, as you do in cheaper hotels, that the opulence is only a veneer, a millimetre-thick gloss of luxury. But this has much to do with the building's original massive structure, whose ghost seems to survive. (The Langham boasts many sightings of real ghosts, dating mainly from its BBC occupation, the most famous by the radio announcer James Alexander Gordon.)

The problems begin as you ascend through the bedroom floors. In the top-price suites on the first floor, fittings and furniture are of mahogany, and the corridors are wide and spacious. But in the "standard" rooms, the fittings and furniture are a very un-Victorian American red ash, the corridors narrow and low-ceilinged. Worse still, perhaps, the mid-range suites have a combination of the dark mahogany and the light red ash.

In 1865, the hotel had 200 bedrooms with prices beginning at 18d a night; the new Langham has 410 rooms, including 50 suites, which will be "in line with current five-star prices", according to its public relations agency. Whatever this means, the Langham's guests will unquestionably get a place with a character unlike anything else in London — until they go upstairs to bed. There, unless they are in the millionaire bracket, they will find themselves in a familiar mix-and-match world of standard elements. The furniture "does not rise above the level of ordinary upholstery", complained *The Building News* in 1865. Good to see the old traditions maintained.



Restored to glory: exterior of the new-look Langham Hilton



Licensed for dining and dancing: top, the listed banqueting and ballroom magnificently refurbished, its coffered ceiling picked out in gold leaf, and (above) doing service earlier this century as a dining-room

Events in town

THIS WEEKEND

■ **Sailboat '91:** National dinghy show with trade stands, expert talks and videos.
National Sports Centre, London SE20 (081-778 0131). Today, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £4, child £1.50.

■ **London International Classic Car Show:** Sixty top owners' clubs, including MG, Rover and Morris, plus a Jaguar concours. Today, an auction of 40 classic cars at 2pm; tomorrow, an auto jumble.
Alexandra Palace, London N22 (081-365 2121). Today, tomorrow 10am-6pm. Adult £5, child £2.

■ **The Video Show:** All the latest equipment on display, plus seminars and demonstrations.
Business Design Centre, Upper Street, London N1 (071-836 2973). Today 10am-6pm, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Adult £3.50, child £2.50.

■ **Weekend Walks:** In London today, "A Dickens stroll" — meet Russell Square Tube station, 11am. Tickets £3.
In Durham tomorrow, "Durham City" with the archaeologist Peter Clack — meet market place, 2pm. Adult 80p, child 40p.

■ **Sheep dog nursery trial:** Last of the season's trials.
East of England Showground, Peterborough (0733 234451). Today, 9.30am until dusk. Free.

■ **Frances Hodgkins — The Late Work:** Guided tour of the exhibition of paintings by the New Zealand-born artist.
Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne (0323 411688). Tomorrow, 3pm.

NEXT WEEK

■ **RSPB Royal Gala Concert:** The countryside provides the theme for all but one of the works to be performed by the English Sinfonia, conducted by Meredith Davies, with Julian Lloyd Webber as soloist.
Barbican Centre, London EC2 (071-638 8891). Mon, 7.45pm. Tickets £8-£25.

■ **Ecology — A Greenhouse Effect:** Built in a 19ft high glass cavern, the exhibition takes visitors on an ecological journey through the complex web of life via interactive videos, models and displays.
National History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 (071-938 9388). Fri onwards, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-6pm, Adult £3, child over five £1.50.

JUDY FROSHAUG

Help: home hair stylists

Cutting in the kitchen

HAVING the hairdresser come to your home instead of going to a salon means you can carry on working, look after the children and supervise supper. Heidi Phillips worked at a hairdressers in King's Road, Chelsea, and thought about becoming a "flying stylist" when she saw the difficulty clients had parking their cars. "It was a clamping area and it was a nightmare, particularly for people having highlights; it was impossible to get them in and out of the salon within two hours."

What also convinced Ms Phillips to go freelance was that so many clients worked from home. "Many women can come into the salon on their way to work, or in their lunchbreak: but people working from home are not so keen. It takes up too much time.

"Now my clients wash their own hair, then I cut it and do a blow-dry. They want easy styles they can manage themselves, so I see them every eight to ten weeks." She charges £15 for a cut and blow-dry and £30 for highlighting. She also goes to offices at lunchtimes to do groups of clients. "Some people have bathrooms at work, but if not, they just wash their hair at home in the morning and I take a water spray. I set up their office like a mini salon, with a sheet on the floor."

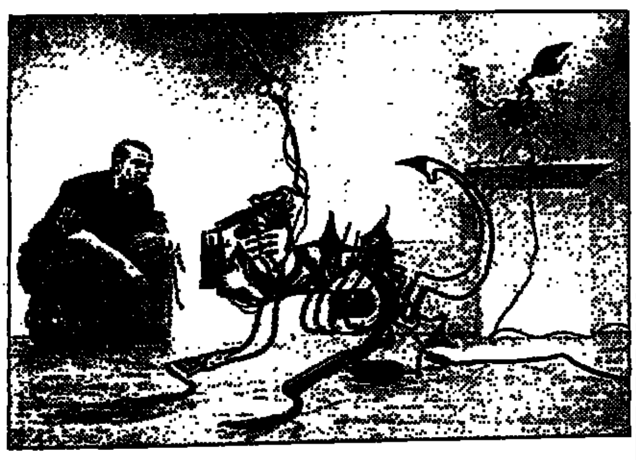
For those living out of London, a trip to the hairdressers combined with shopping used to be a treat, but Michael Peru, a stylist at MacMillan's in Covent Garden, has found that out-of-town clients want him to travel to them.

Every month he spends two or three days at the home of one of his clients in Chester, Cheshire, and she invites 20 or so friends to have their hair done, too. "I charge £25 for a cut and from £40 for perming or colouring. My wife, Elaine, was my assistant before our baby was born and they are both coming along with me soon. It makes a change for us, and clients like to have a London hairdresser."

HEATHER KIRBY

Heidi Phillips: cut and run

Assets



Open: David Boyall's creature has a halogen light "tongue"

Going the ways of the weld

SCULPTURAL metalwork for the home is taking on new shapes and treatments. There are low tables artfully showing off the welding marks, dog-like creatures with halogen light tongues, and mobile chandeliers suspended from electric railway tracks.

These are among the exhibits at the Crafts Council selling show, "City Steel", which opens next Wednesday in London. The show is the first to group together work by the vanguard of designer-makers of sculptural metalwork — André Dubreuil, Tom Dixon, Jon Mills and Mark Brazier-Jones — with a new wave of craftspeople who crush, rust, distress, patinate and recycle non-precious metals and waste materials into post-Modern furniture and lighting.

"City Steel" is the first public exhibition for Mike Savage, a metal sculptor who received a Crafts Council setting-up grant three years ago, which enabled him to buy a welding machine to develop large pieces. He is showing a triangular-topped console table with three sardine-shaped legs, and a low, pedal-shaped table decorated with dramatic welding marks.

David Boyall's assertive animal skeletons offer a light source which is affected by the beasts' movement. The jaws of a dog-like creature part to reveal a halogen light "tongue". Open, the jaws provide strong, directional lighting; closed, they subdue the light to a moody glow. Mr Boyall's more usual offerings include pared-down steel chairs.

Tim Gray is exhibiting a motorised chandelier, built on an electric railway track suspended from the ceiling. Made of hydraulic brake piping, brass and steel, the light works on random motion and moves around every 30 seconds. "It's good for dinner parties that become too boring," he says.

The "City Steel" curator, Ralph Turner, was also responsible for "The New Spirit", a Crafts Council-sponsored touring exhibition that introduced the metalworking talents of Dubreuil, Dixon and Ron Arad five years ago.

"The metal movement has now been adopted all over the world," he says. "But it was here in London that it started and looks set to develop."

NICOLE SWENGLEY

● *"City Steel", March 6-May 12, Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, London SW1 (071-930 4811), Tues-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm, free. Mike Savage can be contacted on 071-928 1964; David Boyall, 071-923 4732.*

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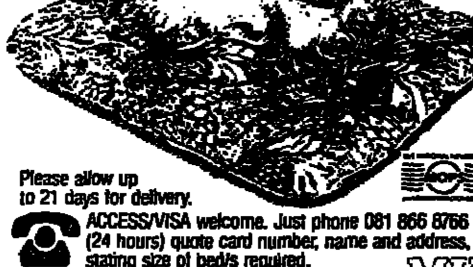

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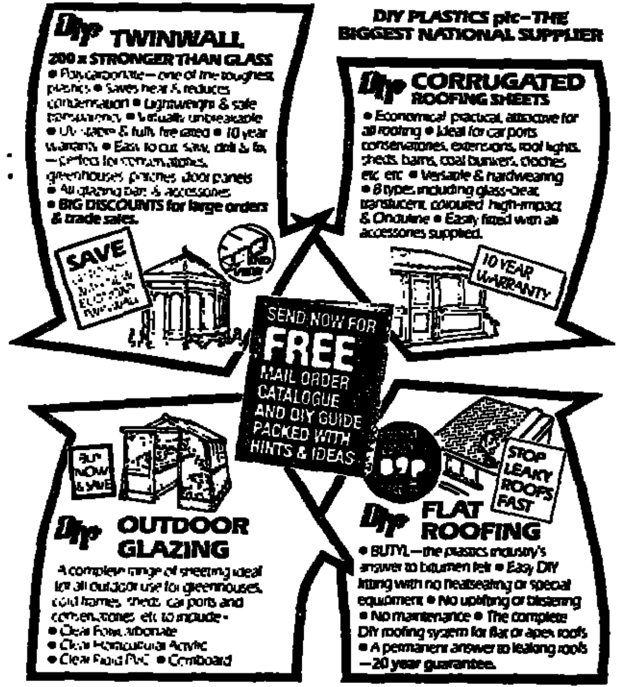

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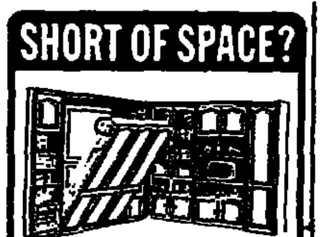

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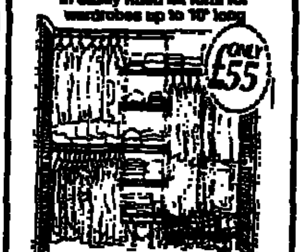

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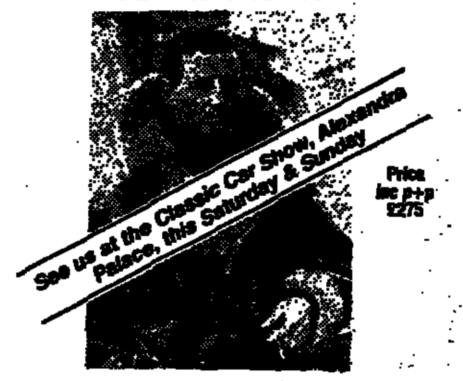

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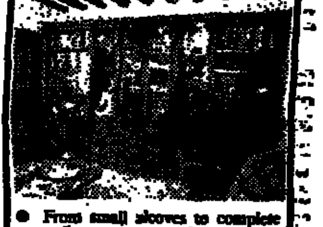

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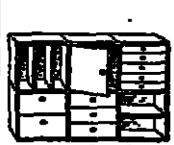

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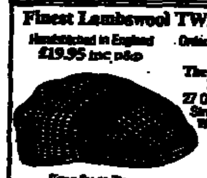

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Gathering for a fair deal

Sarah Jane Checkland reports on prospects for the biggest arts fair in Europe at a Maastricht 'supermarket'

Europe's biggest fine art fair is preparing for take-off next weekend, amid expectation that its quality will draw buyers, and dread that, despite everything, it might flop.

Some 140 dealers from ten countries will converge on the border town of Maastricht, in The Netherlands, hoping to reap the benefits of proximity to the great collecting nations of Europe. They will set up shop in the MECC, a ghastly supermarket of an exhibition centre, offering a superb range of exhibits, from carpets to glass, and sculpture to contemporary painting.

The greatest emphasis, however, will be on old masters, particularly of the 17th century Dutch variety, designed to attract the north Europeans who are their traditional buyers. More than 3,000 old master paintings were offered last year. Highlights among the works this year will be a recently discovered wooded landscape oil painting on copper by Jan Brueghel the Elder, for $3.8 million (£1.97 million) at the Newhouse stand, and the only portrait by Modigliani of his early patron, Madame Madou, at the Joseph Guttmann stand.

On the supermarket shelf: Modigliani's *Portrait of Madame Madou* and Jan Brueghel the Younger's still life of flowers, both for sale at the Maastricht fair

Thanks to the felicitous booking of 52 advertising slots on CNN, the television news network, before the Gulf war, organisers have been inundated with enquiries. According to Johnny van Haeften, a dealer and organiser, "We had so many requests for tickets, we've had to reprint them". Parties of "fair groupies" — international collectors who follow the quality fairs all over the world — are booked to come from the United States.

Another encouraging sign for exhibitors is evidence that, disaffected with the auction houses, collectors are returning to dealers as outlets for works. As Sotheby's has reduced its major old master sales from three to two this year, dealers queue up to display wares from private sources.

"I have got four or five pictures where the owners have preferred to sell through me rather than go through the auction rooms," Mr van Haeften says, citing his flower painting by Breughel the Younger, on offer at £850,000, as an example. Konrad Bernheimer, of the Bernheimer Gallery, adds: "Very good and interesting pieces are getting very rare in auctions. Everyone wants them. Sometimes prices at auctions are simply too high. And then the object is known [as a non-seller] around the trade."

Whereas great collecting nations such as America and Japan have been holding back recently, the typical Maastricht client — wealthy, Continental — has not. Unlike the British and Americans, whose habit is to live in a state of permanent debt, they buy with their excess cash, and are therefore under less strain. And, of course, the apparent end of the Gulf war should boost many markets, the art market included.

On the downside, however, is the fact that, despite its worthiness, Maastricht is no glamorous Paris Biennale, and big-name international collectors such as Baron Rothschild and Jane Wrightsman are expected to stay away.

> *'There is still a lot of money around'*

Because of general economic problems, many areas of the market were already limping before the Gulf conflict. Although the fair has recruited 38 new participants, including Richard Philp, Garton European prints and Stoppenbach & Delestre from London, a group of top London dealers — Artemis, Colnaghi, Richard Green and Harari & Johns — has pulled out. "The market is at the lowest ebb I have ever known it," says Derek Johns, of Harari & Johns. "The timing is unfortunate. I think it will take several months to recover." He believes the Grosvenor House fair in June has far better prospects.

Germany has the largest contingent of exhibitors — 30 of them. Claus Hubner, the Wurzburg dealer who sold £100,000 worth of glass at Maastricht last year, says that when he and six other German dealers joined the fair, six years ago, his countrymen were reluctant to acknowledge the European market. Now he says, they are all competing strongly. Albrecht Neuhaus, also of Wurzburg, and a specialist in old masters and furniture, is "astonished" by the strength of the market, "in spite of difficulties" This has been his best year, he says. Herr Bernheimer, who sells European furniture and works of art, Chinese porcelain and textiles in Munich, admits to "being a bit worried during the first half of January, when it was extremely quiet. But two or three weeks ago it picked up. I have done extremely well selling Chinese porcelain to German private people."

In Paris, Alexis Kugel, the silver, sculptures and paintings dealer, says: "There is still a lot of money around and I am hopeful. The French furniture market is still going strong because people are still buying apartments and houses, and still need furniture."

Italian collectors, although hardly represented at this northern-orientated fair, have been showing surprising eagerness to buy, notably at the Marcos collection of old masters in New York during January.

Belgium and The Netherlands remain relative backwaters, although Maastricht tends to be the place where Dutch collectors come into their own, buying Dutch pictures.

The traditional diffidence of dealers means that no one ever finds out the true results from art fairs. In the current, stringent circumstances, this gives them a distinct public relations advantage over the auctions, whose results are made public. Whatever happens, all concerned will put a brave face on Maastricht, and most will be back at the supermarket next year.

● *European Fine Art Fair, MECC, Maastricht, from March 9 to 17. Tel* 010 *31-73 145165 before the fair,* 010 *31-43 838383 during the fair.*

Exports rise to £2.2bn

Review

■ **Floodgate:** Britain's exports of art and antiques increased by almost 20 per cent last year to £2.2 billion, according to the *Antiques Trade Gazette*. This is depressing news for our heritage. Imports of £1.9 billion were up 13 per cent. During the same period, before the Japanese retreated from the market, exports of antiques to Japan alone rose by 57 per cent to £55 million, while the figure for paintings was up 68 per cent to £310 million. This compares with £18 million of antiques which came into Britain from Japan, and £41 million of pictures.

■ **Signing up:** Saddam Hussein's signature sold for £220 at Neales of Nottingham this week. The signature was on a greetings card. President Bush's signature was part of a lot that fetched £65 at the same sale, and the Emir of Kuwait's signature sold for £35.

■ **Rocks roll:** Jewellery performed better for Sotheby's than Christie's last weekend in St Moritz. Sotheby's unsold figure was 37 per cent, compared with 50 per cent at Christie's (one reason for the latter statistic was the high proportion of stock offered by the trade). Sotheby's top performer was a ruby and diamond ring, which sold for 2 million Swiss francs (£827,235) to a Geneva dealer. A pair of sapphire and diamond clips by Boucheron fetched £335,365 (estimate, £235,000).

■ **Cashing in:** Treasury bills with a face value of more than £500 million were sold by Christie's to a German for £88,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000). They were issued to raise money for the counter-revolutionary White Army after the October 1917 uprising, but never honoured.

Preview

■ **Tuesday:** Sotheby's Sussex furniture sale, 10am, includes a 20th century gilt wood throne, surmounted by a vaguely oriental deity, with carved supports made up of exotic birds and beasts (up to £800). At 11am, Phillips has a horseless Munnings, *Sunlit Willows, Dedham* (up to £15,000), in its British painting sale.

◘ **Wednesday:** Christie's silver sale includes the first of Victoria's Queen's Trophy shields, a silver-gilt piece (up to £15,000) won at Cowes in 1838, and the King's Cup tankard for 1828 (up to £35,000).

◘ **Thursday:** Paintings, silver, jewels, porcelain and dolls at Lawrence of Crewkerne at 10am, and a good mixed sale at Hy Duke across the border in Dorset, 10.30am.

◘ **Thursday and Friday:** Twentieth century British and Irish paintings and watercolours at Christie's, with the "traditionalist" offerings on Thursday at 2.30pm, including a splendid, if figureless, Stanley Spencer canvas, *Gypsophila* (up to £100,000), and post-war and contemporary sections on Friday, 11am.

◘ *Sotheby's Sussex, Billingshurst (0403 783933). Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, W1 (071-629 6602). Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, SW7 (071-581 7611). Christie's King Street, St James's, SW1 (071-839 9060). Lawrence, South Street, Crewkerne, Somerset (0460 73041). Hy. Duke & Son, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester (0305 265080).*

ARTS REVIEWS

Hilarity returns to the dark night

DONALD COOPER

Wonderfully wintry disdain: Eric Porter's Malvolio

THEATRE

Twelfth Night
Playhouse

NOT long ago *Twelfth Night* was regarded as Shakespeare's most serene comedy. Then the scholars remembered that the great tragedies came only a few years later, and began to see darkness, danger and malice behind the play's smiles; and, inevitably, the directors followed. Toby Belch became a horrid, bulbous drone, the practical jokes he plays on Malvolio almost demanded investigation by Amnesty International, and Illyria seemed barely sunnier than Birnam Wood or Dunsinane.

Peter Hall clearly wants to edge back the pendulum. The orange tree in Timothy O'Brien's courtyard set is shedding autumnal leaves, David Ryall's clown has his lugubrious moments, but otherwise melancholy is missing. Indeed, Dinsdale Landen's Belch, with his curls, looping moustachios, red Carolean garb and genial grin, seems to be auditioning for a Frans Hals painting; he is not just a laughing Cavalier, but a hilariously gurgling one.

That is not the only trend Hall challenges. His production rejects the guileful detail, the verbal nuances, the pregnant pauses so beloved of the RSC in particular. That entails some loss but also a new briskness and momentum. Moreover, Hall takes pains to establish points important to the plot that are usually neglected by super-subtle directors.

Thus Richard Garnett's Orsino clearly feels a half-conscious pull towards Maria Miles's fine, bold Viola. At one moment he actually strokes her chin and kisses her lips. That makes it easier to believe his renunciation of Sara Crowe's pert Olivia for a girl he thought a boy. Again, Martin Jarvis has been encouraged to play Aguecheek, not as the drip of tradition, but as the "great quarreller" the text calls him.

True, that does not explain why he dresses in what I at first mistook for a huge wicker picnic basket but later realised was a yellow plaid blanket that had been converted into knickerbockers stretching up to his wispy off-white hair. The visual impression is of Beckett's crazed Lucky playing celebrity golf. Nevertheless, this incongruous figure has a surly truculence, a macho swagger that for once explains why he is quick to cuff or challenge those he thinks he can beat, such as the "male" Viola.

That leaves what could, should and maybe will be the evening's major performance, Eric Porter's Malvolio. Certainly his clay-coloured, pockmarked face exudes a wonderfully wintry disdain. Certainly he twists in plausible glee when upmarket fantasies seize him, and certainly he frisks comically enough in his yellow stockings. But if the idea is to suggest that inside the old, gristly mutton is a lamb, waiting for release, it does not yet come off. His two Malvolios have yet to cohere into one. Time may yet do it.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

OPERA

The Magic Flute
Covent Garden

WHEN Covent Garden's *Magic Flute*, directed by August Everding and designed by Jürgen Rose, was new 12 years ago, it had no pretentions beyond telling the story straightforwardly. Now revived once again by Helmut Lehberger, there is some slight evidence of rethinking, but the new ideas superimposed on the old structure scarcely make for an integrated production.

The admonition to beware of "woman's malice", for example, is now countered by a surprised reaction from Papageno. Yet no other opportunities have been taken to confront the work's lapses into misogyny and racism. A half-hearted acknowledgement of the problem is no solution, especially when Wilfred Judd's skilful surtitles pulled no punches.

The staging jogs along amiably enough, but it all lacks sparkle and brio — largely a matter of timing; nor is there much feel of the broad humour, bordering on farce, that differentiates Schikaneder's low-brow comedy for the suburban Viennese theatre from the more elevated Da Ponte operas.

Olaf Bar's Papageno is an engaging creation, winning sympathy with his warm, affable nature and bringing a *Lieder* singer's precision to the details of his vocal lines. He is also a tolerably good actor and would make a more memorable impression in a sharper production.

Tamino is attractively sung with strong, unforced tone by the South African tenor Deon van der Walt. Joan Rodgers as Pamina struggled valiantly against flu and a throat infection, but her voice dwindled to a thread in "Ach, ich fühl's" — an unintentionally telling depiction of vulnerability that reduced the entire house to a deathly but sympathetic hush — before giving out completely. Her remaining music was sung anything but weakly from the wings by Gillian Webster, a different characterisation from Rodgers's altogether.

Luciana Serra achieved the unusual distinction of sounding both sweet and secure in the stratospheric passages of her two arias, while producing a much less pleasant tone, hard and thin, in the middle register. Donald McIntyre's Sarastro was also disappointingly ill-focused. He is a white-haired elder, who looks the part, but his inability to discipline that generous voice robbed his role of its natural authority.

There were good contributions from Linda Kitchen as Papagena, Kim Begley as Monostatos, Anthony Michaels-Moore as the Speaker, and Gillian Webster, Anne Mason and Anne-Marie Owens as a splendid trio of Ladies, ruthless in their amorous squabbling over the unconscious Tamino.

Stephen Barlow, in the pit, kept things moving at a cracking pace, with generally satisfactory gear changes. He has not yet managed to keep his cast with him all the time, but his freshness and energy are welcome, even if they tend to show up the comparative lameness of the production.

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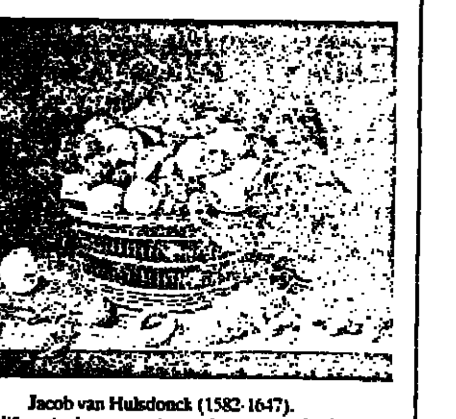

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Sunday 3 March NB:starting time: 4 pm	**DAVID MATTINSON** bass-baritone, **CLARE TOOMER** piano 1991 BP Peter Pears Award Recital. Schubert: Settings of poems by Mayrhofer. Brahms: 4 Lieder, Wolf: Michelangelo Lieder, Vaughan Williams: The House of Life (1903), Debussy: 3 Ballades of François Villon. £7, £6, £5, £4 BP Peter Pears Award
Tuesday 5 March 7.30 pm	**MUSICA ANTIQUA KÖLN, REINHARD GOEBEL** director Early Music & Baroque Series. Works without Opus Numbers. Handel: Overture in D; 2 Sinfonias in B; Concerto in B for piccolo-recorder, violins & continuo; Sonata in B for solo violin, strings and continuo; Concerto grosso in F, Op. 3 No. 4b. £11, £9, £7, £5 HoM
Wednesday 6 March 7.30 pm	**LONDON FORTEPIANO TRIO, JAN SCHLAPP** viola. Early Music & Baroque Series. Mozart Programme last of 3 concerts. Mozart: Divertimento in B flat K254, Piano Trio in G K564, Piano Quartet in E flat K493. £8, £7, £6, £5 Magenta Music International
Thursday 7 March 7.30 pm	**COULL QUARTET.** Robert Simpson 70th Birthday Series 2nd of 3 concerts. Schubert: String Quartet in E flat D87; Simpson: Quartet No. 11 (1984); Beethoven: Quartet No. 16 in F Op. 135. £9, £7.50, £6, £4.50 Festival Artists
Friday 8 March 7.30 pm	**MUSICA ANTIQUA KÖLN, REINHARD GOEBEL** director. Early Music & Baroque Series. Please note change of programme. Telemann: Flute Quartets A & A min, Janitsch: Flute Quartet in G Op. 1 No. 2; WF Bach: Duet in G, JS Bach: Partita in A minor BWV1013; JCF Bach: Flute Quartet No. 1 in D. £11, £9, £7, £5 HoM
Saturday 9 March 7.30 pm	**COULL QUARTET.** Robert Simpson 70th Birthday Series last of 3 concerts. Mozart: String Quartet No 19 in C K465 "Dissonance"; Simpson: Quartet No 12 (1987) (1st London perf); Mendelssohn: Quartet No. 2 in A minor Op. 13. £9, £7.50, £6, £4.50 Festival Artists
Sunday 10 March 11.30 am	**PURCELL QUARTET.** Sunday Morning Coffee Concert. Vivaldi: Morning. Vivaldi: Trio Sonata in C RV60; Trio Sonata in B minor Op 1 No 11 RV79; Vivaldi/Bach: Concerto in D BWV972; Vivaldi: Sonata for 2 violins in F RV68, Variations on "La Folia". £5 including programme & coffee/sherry/juice.
Sunday 10 March NB:starting time: 4 pm	**AURYN QUARTET OF COLOGNE.** International Chamber Music Series. NB: Change of Artists and Programme. Haydn: Quartet in B flat Op. 71 No 1; Britten: Quartet No. 3 Op. 94, Beethoven: Quartet No. 16 in F Op. 135. £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 HoM
Monday 11 March 7.30 pm	**THE ACADEMY OF ANCIENT MUSIC.** CHRISTOPHER HOGWOOD director, MELVYN TAN fortepiano. Haydn: Symphony No. 40 in F, Piano Concerto in D; Piano Sonata in B minor; Symphony No. 72 in D £12, £10, £8, £6
Tuesday 12 March 7.30 pm	**ROMANESCA.** Early Music & Baroque Series. Andrew Manze baroque violin · Nigel North theorbo/archlute · John Toll organ/hpscd. Muffat's Grand Tour. Schmelzer: Sonata, Uccellini: Toccata "La Laura Rilucente", Corelli: "La Follia" Op 5 No. 12, Muffat: Sonata; Lully: Dances (trans D'Anglebert & Visée) £10, £8, £6, £5
Wednesday 13 March 7.30 pm	**SOPHIE ROLLAND** cello, **MARC-ANDRE HAMELIN** piano. Beethoven: The complete works for piano & cello, 1. Sonata in F Op 5 No 1, Sonata in G minor Op. 5 No. 2; Sonata in A Op. 69 Second concert: 21 March. £8, £7, £6, £5 Jane Gray
Thursday 14 March 7.30 pm	**JOSEF PROTSCHKA** tenor **HELMUT DEUTSCH** piano. Song Recital Series. Mendelssohn: Songs to texts by Heine & Eichendorff. Tchaikovsky: Five songs; Dvorák: Liebeslieder Op. 83. £12, £10, £8 (all others sold) HoM
Friday 15 March 7.30 pm	**KEVIN KENNER** piano. Winner 1990 Int'l Terence Judd Award, Winner 1990 Warsaw Int'l Chopin Piano Competition. Chopin: Ballade No 4 Op 52; 4 Mazurkas; Scherzo No. 3 Op. 39; Andante Spianato & Grande Polonaise Brillante Op 22, Ravel: Valses nobles et sentimentales, La Valse. £7, £6, £5, £4 Hallé Concert Society

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Ton't 2 Mar 7.45pm	**MOZART 200** — English Chamber Orchestra, Leopold Hager cond Aleksander Madzar piano José-Luis Garcia violin Mozart: March in F, K248 Piano Concerto No 6, K238; Serenade No 7, K250, *Haffner* £15 £13 £11 £9 £6 £4 *SPONSORED BY PIONEER HIGH FIDELITY (G.B.) LIMITED*
Tomor 3 Mar 4.00pm	**STEPHEN BISHOP-KOVACEVICH** Piano Recital Bach: Partita in D major Beethoven: Sonata No. 28 in A, Op 101 Chopin: Nocturnes in F sharp minor, Op 48 No 2; E flat Op 55 No 2; 3 Mazurkas: Op 24 No 4; Op 41 No 1; Op 33 No 4; Polonaise in E flat minor Op 26 No 2 Bartok: Out of Doors Suite £14 £11 £7.50 £5 *SPONSORED BY COMMERZBANK AG LONDON BRANCH*
Tomor 3 Mar 7.30pm	**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Myung-Whun Chung cond Igor Oistrakh violin. Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto Berlioz: Symphonie fantastique £25 *SWISS FEST 700 LSO Ltd*
Mon 4 Mar 7.45pm	**RSPB GALA CONCERT** In the presence of HRH Princess Alexandra. English Sinfonia, Meredith Davies cond. Julian Lloyd Webber cello Haydn: Symphony No 83, *The Hen* Tchaikovsky: Variations on a Rococo Theme Beethoven: Symphony No. 6 *Pastoral* £25 £15 £8 *Royal Society for the Protection of Birds*
Tue 5 Mar 7.45pm	**BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Mark Wigglesworth cond Britten: Prelude and Fugue for 18 part string orchestra Dominic Muldowney: Three Pieces for Orchestra (BBC Commission, World Premiere) Shostakovich: Symphony No 10 £16 £12 £8 £3.50 *BBC*
Wed 6 Mar 7.45pm	**THE CLASSICAL COLLECTION** London Concert Orchestra, Bramwell Tovey cond. Hugh Tinney piano Rossini: Ov *The Barber of Seville* Grieg: Peer Gynt Suite Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue Elgar: Pomp & Circumstance March £18.50 £16.50 £14.50 £11.50 £7.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*
Thu 7 Mar 7.45pm	**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA – SHOSTAKOVICH** Violin Concerto No 1; Symphony No 8 Maxim Shostakovich cond Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg violin £25 £18.50 £14 £11 £8 £5 *SPONSORED BY RANK XEROX LSO Ltd*
Sat 9 Mar 7.45pm	**MOZART 200 – ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Daniel Barenboim cond/piano Mozart: Symphony No 25, K183, Piano Concerto No 9, K271; Symphony No 39, K543 £15 £4 ONLY *SPONSORED BY PIONEER HIGH FIDELITY (G.B.) LIMITED*
Mon 11 Mar 7.45pm	**VIENNA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Great Orchestras of the World Nikolaus Harnoncourt cond. Mozart: Symphony No 35, K385 *Haffner*; Symphony No 36, K425 *Linz*; Symphony No 38, K504 *Prague* £20 £16 £12 £8 £5 *Harold Holt Ltd. in association with the Barbican Centre*
Tue 12 Mar 7.45pm	**BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Mark Wigglesworth cond Wagner: Prelude to Act 1 of *Parsifal* Howard Skempton: Lento (BBC Commission, World Premiere) Mahler: Symphony No 10 £16 £12 £8 £3.50
Wed 13 Mar 7.45pm	**MOZART 200** — Viktor Liberman violin Yuri Bashmet viola. Mozart: Symphony No 33, K319; Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola, K364; Serenade No 9, K320 *Posthorn* £15 £13 £11 £9 £6 £4 *SPONSORED BY PIONEER HIGH FIDELITY (G.B.) LIMITED*
Fri 15 Mar 7.00pm	**BACH – ST JOHN PASSION** City of London Sinfonia, Richard Hickox Singers Richard Hickox cond. Adrian Thompson Evangelist Bryn Terfel Christus Patrizia Kwella soprano Michael Chance counter-tenor Mark Tucker tenor Stephen Varcoe baritone (Sung in German) £16 £13 £11 £8 £5

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MENDELSSOHN	Overture, The Hebrides
HANDEL	Music for the Royal Fireworks
BRUCH	Violin Concerto No.1
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No.3 "Eroica"

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SUNDAY 31 MARCH at 7.30 p.m.

THE FOUR SEASONS

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ALBINONI	Adagio
MOZART	Piano Concerto in C, K.467
VIVALDI	The Four Seasons

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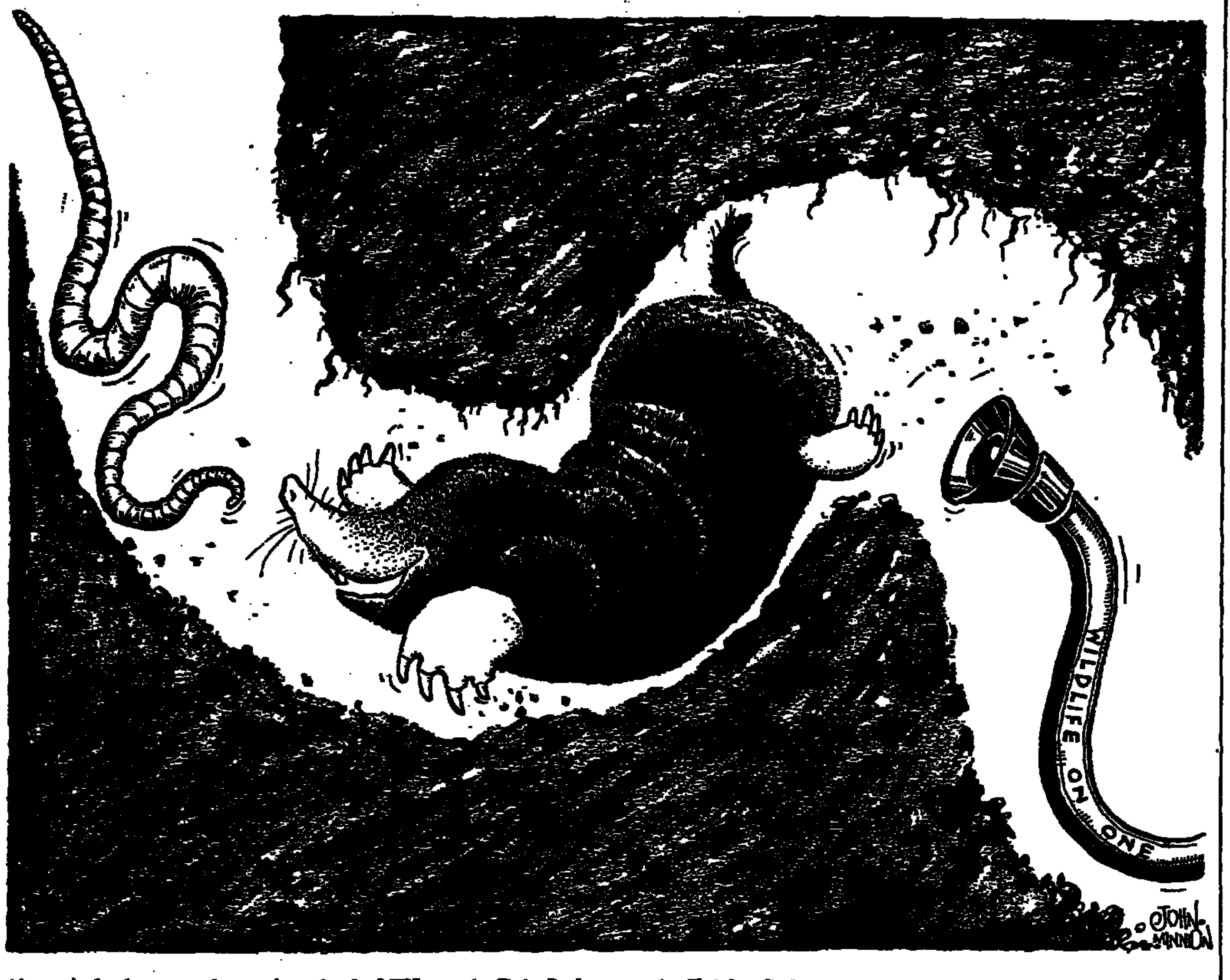
TELEVISION REVIEW

Worming through regulated channels

Lynne Truss on an excited listings industry, controlled moles on *Wildlife On One*, plus *Shrinks* and *J'Accuse*



One of the unexpected side-effects of the launch of the new deregulated television listing magazines is that suddenly there appears to be far more television. The news that there are four terrestrial channels instead of two has caused such a flutter at *Radio Times* and *TV Times* that they have grown over-excited. "Lumme, there's so *much*," is their lathered message. "Look at how *much* there is. You never knew there was so *much*, did you?"

In fact, of course, we viewers have known about the four channels for quite some time, and have encountered few difficulties in negotiating a personal route through an evening's programming. We are now, therefore, in the strange position of being told that the scheduling exercise we formerly took in our stride is actually extremely difficult, requiring charts and diagrams and wipe-clean laminated clip-boards (the latter a free gift from *What's On TV*). How innocent we were in those old pre-deregulation days! We honestly believed that choosing what to watch could be accomplished without graph-paper or slide-rules.

Luckily, I stumbled on a secondary use for the laminated clip-board. Somehow or other (and the cats feign ignorance in the matter) a number of earthworms have recently found their way, one by one, on to my living-room carpet. I am pleased to say that this mysterious plague has now met its match in the trusty clip-board, which has proved itself an ideally suitable means of conveying these low-lifes out of the house. I offer this fact humbly as a potential selling-point for *What's On TV* (possibly its only one). "Buy What's On TV", they could say,"And Save Worms".

Worms certainly need all the friends they can get, if this week's Wildlife On One was anything to go by. Called "Unearthing the Mole", this extraordinary film followed moles through their burrows (plenty of close-up shots of moles' little hairy backsides hurriedly disappearing into the blackness of the tunnel ahead) and was punctuated by stomach-turning episodes of moles routinely munching their way through the living bodies of our wormy friends. It sounds inoffensive enough, but it was truly ghastly, perhaps because everything looked a lot bigger than it should. Given that the moles are so small, the worms assumed the proportions of those big flexible air-ducts used in office-block central heating systems. Sinister music accompanied each of the moles' snatched meals, probably for the innocent reason that there were no authentic sound-effects.

Alternatively, however, the music might have been introduced to disguise the high-pitched primal screams of the assaulted worm, or the low moans of the viewer cowering behind the sofa.

The interesting thing about watching such a programme is that its artifice must be accepted from the outset. OK, so this was all set up, wasn't it? Moles were transported to a special purpose-built studio-home, and were filmed by means of long medical probing cameras, and fibre optic lighting. Of course we suspect as much. Yet at the same time, part of the drama of the piece is that the viewer still half-believes in a phantom cameraman breathlessly crawling behind the accelerating mole, squeezing himself deeper and deeper into the black, earthy, suffocating tunnel. A bit like Alice going down the rabbit hole, only with more resounding echoes of Freud and Poe.

What is reassuring, however, is the knowledge that the mole's performance has been left to nature. The director may give the mole an artificial floor to burrow through, but there is no point attempting to "direct" him. For one thing, the mole possesses only tiny pin-hole ears, and is likely to respond to questions in the manner of Gordon, the deaf FBI man in *Twin Peaks*. "Could you eat the worm now?" the director would ask. "*Tell you what,*" shouts the mole, "*I'll eat the worm now.*" "Would you attempt to mate with the female mole?" "*Excuse me, I'm just going to try to mate with this female mole.*"

By an unfortunate coincidence, Monday night provided an arresting contrast between reality and drama. In Shrinks (Thames), Charles Gray played a titled religious maniac, who staged a crucifixion on the lawn, while at the same time on Channel 4, *Cutting Edge* was telling the real story of three Liverpool mental patients, one of whom, having been cured of the delusion that he was Christ, now firmly believed he was God. His wife laughed about it, saying that she had given up arguing, but it was clear that life as Mr and Mrs God needed a great deal of understanding.

> *Clip-boards could be a selling-point for What's On TV. "Buy What's On TV", they could say, "And Save Worms"*

I ask myself why I continue to watch *Shrinks*. Perhaps an unconscious need for drivel simply draws me back, week after week. One thing I admire about it is the way it sticks to its clear-cut ideas about human needs, with the clients each week turning out to have straightforward requirements, rather like the people in the Prudential Assurance commercial. "I want to be ordinary," says one; "I want to be different," says another.

This week the two main cases could be summarised as "I want to be a woman" and "I want to be Christ crucified". Easy, really. My great hope is that, later in the series, *Shrinks* will find a way of including my own personal favourite from the Prudential credo: *viz*, "I want to be a tomato".

What did Benjamin Britten want to be? According to Tom Sutcliffe's waspish J'Accuse for Channel 4, Britten's later career (after his retreat to Aldeburgh) was bedevilled by a contemptible troika of desires: "I want to be respectable", "I want to be surrounded by sycophants", and "Oh I do like to be beside the seaside". None of these sounds to me like an indictable offence. Why should Britten be chastised for protecting himself against the things that hurt him? However, Sutcliffe is clearly angry with the Britten industry, which stubbornly refuses to accept his contention that the compositions of the older Britten were "emotional corpses".

Among the witnesses called by Sutcliffe, incidentally, was the young British composer Steve Martland, a man whose music I have never heard, but whose diary is seemingly packed with dates to appear on arts shows. Young, cool, articulate, with a nicely softened regional accent – if there had been no Steve Martland, it would have been necessary for *The Late Show* to invent him. One day a *J'Accuse* will no doubt be made by a saddened devotee, saying that Steve Martland ought not to have wasted his talented years doing guest spots on arts programmes. If this should happen, I would defend to the death his right to reply that *it* is none of their business, and that if they don't like it they can just go off somewhere and eat worms.

TELEVISION PREVIEW

Portrait of the man as a child

A television documentary on the life of Rudolf Nureyev offers new insight into his early years, reports Debra Craine

On his first day at school, Rudolf Nureyev had to be carried to the classroom by his mother because he did not have any shoes. Other children mocked him as a beggar, his family was so poor he had to scavenge bottles and bits of copper to supplement its income, and he used to faint from hunger. Yet housed within this unlikely Tartar urchin was a determination so strong that he turned himself into the world's most famous dancer.

This is the portrait painted by a television documentary which sets out to shed new light on the enigmatic artist by retracing Nureyev's roots in Ufa, a town at the foot of the Urals, where he grew up the son of a military man during the Forties. "There has never really been a serious documentary on him," says Patricia Foy, who produced and directed the 90-minute film biography for tomorrow's *South Bank Show* (ITV). "We've gone back to his roots, to his hometown, and spoken to the people who knew him when he was a child."

What emerged, says Foy, is the story of an obsessive genius, shaped by a childhood of appalling deprivation that served to isolate him from his peers. "The old saying, 'the child is the father of the man', has never been so clearly illustrated as with Rudolf," she says. "He has not changed at all since he was a child. He was so determined, and there was always trouble as a child. He was always in disagreement with people. He was a loner, always at a variance with authority. And he is still at variance with authority.

"People like to believe that he is a turbulent Tartar and to some extent that it is true. He does offend people, but one must judge him by his artistic genius and it just does not matter what he's like. What is important is his dancing."

His determination to dance began at the age of six when his mother smuggled him into a ballet performance. Against the wishes of his father, he took folk dancing lessons in Ufa, then gained entry to the Kirov ballet school in Leningrad at the advanced age of 17. Forced to begin his studies with younger children, three years later he graduated, in 1958, as a dancer so brilliant he won the Moscow competition and immediately became a Kirov principal.

The documentary is based on a series of interviews with Nureyev, filmed during three days last summer on his private Italian island, and fleshed out by reminiscences from his teachers, family and colleagues, and illustrated by footage of some of his many roles. The film traces Nureyev's long career, including his defection in Paris in 1961, his celebrated partnership with the late Margot Fonteyn, his decades as a globe-trotting international guest artist, his years as director of the Paris Opera Ballet, and his return to the Kirov in 1989.

The details of his public life have been well documented throughout the past 30 years, but Nureyev has always ensured his private life remained a mystery, so perhaps it is not surprising that the programme fails to offer any insight into him as a mature artist. Yet it is also disappointing to find that the documentary skirts the issue of whether he has compromised his artistic dignity by continuing to perform when his best dancing days are behind him; despite the fact that he is almost 53, he still maintains a bruising schedule of more than 200 performances a year.

Still, the final image in the programme is a poignant one: Nureyev alone on his Mediterranean island – one of the seven homes he has around the world – contemplating his isolation from the mainstream of society.

Humble beginnings to solitary riches: Nureyev

"He is a genius who has paid a price," says Foy. "I suppose anyone who devotes an entire life to one specific thing pays a price. It may mean Rudolf is lonely, but he wouldn't have wished his life to have been any other way."

● The South Bank Show: Rudolf Nureyev *is on ITV tomorrow at 10.30pm.*

Arts reviews, page 19

ENTERTAINMENTS

THEATRES

ALBERY BO & cc (no fee) 867 1115 cc (no fee)867 1111/379 4444 bkg fee 793 1000/497 9977 BEST MUSICAL SWET Award 1983 WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS with STEPHANIE LAWRENCE "ASTONISHING...A Milestone in British Musicals" S Exp "...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7 45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

APOLLO VICTORIA BB 071 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Grps 828 6188 cc 24hr 379 4444/240 7200 071 793 1000 Grps 930 6123 Eves 7 45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0 SEVENTH HIT YEAR STARLIGHT EXPRESS Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE Directed by TREVOR NUNN OAP's £5 on Tues Mats NOW BOOKING TO 28 SEPT

ALDWYCH B.O/CC 071-836 6404 Also CC (no bkg fee): 071 836 2428 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 / 379 4444 LTD SEASON FROM 3 APRIL ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY CORIOLANUS & THE WINTER'S TALE "Distinctive, popular and barnstorming" Ind.

ADELPHI 071 836 7611 CC 071 793 1000/071 379 4444 First Call 24hr cc 071 497 9977 (no bkg fee) Grps 071 930 6123 NOW BOOKING TO SEPT ME AND MY GIRL THE LAMBETH WALK MUSICAL Nightly at 7 30 Mats Wed at 2.30 & Sat 4.30 & 8 00 "THE HAPPIEST SHOW IN TOWN" Sunday Express

ALDWYCH 071 836 6404 cc 071 793 1000 (No Fee) & 24hr cc 836 2428/379 4444 (Bkg Fee) JULIAN CLARY IS CAMPING AT THE ALDWYCH Eve 8 Sats 5.30,8.30 Till March 9

CAMBRIDGE 071-379 5299 CC 071 379 4444 (24hr no Bkg Fee) 071 497 9977(24hr)/071 793 1000 (B. Fee) Grps 071 240 7941 "Go in and Rock..." The Times BEST MUSICAL Olivier Awards 1990 RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET "The brashest, boldest musical" C Limits "Breathless and bristling" D Mir Mon-Thu 8 Fri & Sat 5 & 8.30 All seats £8 50 Fri 5pm only "Deliciously addictive" D Tel "Awesome" What's On

COMEDY B.O 071 867 1045/1111cc Also CC (no bkg fee) 071 379 4444/497 9977 793 1000 "STUNNING... A POWERFUL EVENING" Mail THE PETER HALL COMPANY WARREN MITCHELL CHERIE LUNGHI The HOMECOMING by HAROLD PINTER Directed by Peter Hall "DISTURBINGLY HILARIOUS" Indep Eves 8.00. MATS WED 3.00. SAT 5 00 SEASON NOW EXTENDED

DUCHESS 071-836 8243 cc 071-379 4444/071 793 1000 (no bkg fee) 071-240 7200 (bkg fee) Groups 071-930 6123 Theatre of Comedy Company HENRY McGEE LESLIE LAWTON & WILLIAM LUCAS in RAY COONEY'S "HILARIOUS" (S.Times) RUN FOR YOUR WIFE! LONDONS LONGEST RUNNING COMEDY 8.00 nightly Sats 5.30 & 8.30 Thu Mat 2.30

DOMINION 071 580 8845 cc 071 580 9562 SUBS EVGS 7 30 MATS THUR & SAT 2.30. Don't Miss The Real Musical 42ND STREET Returns to the West End FOR A LIMITED SEASON

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 071-379 4444/240 7200/793 1000 Grps 831 8625 INFO + AVAIL 0839 333570 MISS SAIGON "MUSICALS COME AND GO THIS ONE WILL STAY" S Tms Eves 7 45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm CHECK DAILY FOR RETURNS AND CANCELLATIONS. Latecomers not admitted until the interval. A FEW GOOD SEATS STILL AVAIL FOR MIDWEEK MATS APPLY TO BOX OFFICE. NOW BOOKING UNTIL 30 JUNE 1991. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS/PERSONAL CALLERS (071 836 8108)

DUKE OF YORKS BO & cc 836 5122 cc 836 9837 cc 836 3464/379 4444/793 1000 COMEDY OF THE YEAR Olivier Awards 1988 ELIZABETH ESTENSEN in WILLY RUSSELL'S "GEM" SHIRLEY VALENTINE Eves 8 Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 "The audience roars approval. Shirley's spell is unbreakable" Mail "Funniest play for years" Daily Mirror

FORTUNE Box Office & cc 071 836 2238 24hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977 (24hr) 071 793 1000 Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A BRILLIANTLY EFFECTIVE SPINE CHILLER" Guardian "MASTERLY" Exp "CHILLING" Ind "Take Tranquillisers" T Out Eves 8 Mats Tue 3 & Sat 4 "HOORAY FOR HORROR" D Mail NOW BOOKING TO SEPT '91

GARRICK BO & CC 071 379 6107 cc 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 240 7200/793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123 THE REHEARSAL by JEAN ANOUILH "A VERY HOT TICKET" T Out Eves 7 45 Sat 4 & 8 Mat Tue 3

GREENWICH THEATRE 081 858 7755 Evgs 7 45 Sat Mats 2.30 Emlyn Williams THE CORN IS GREEN "A glorious performance from PATRICIA ROUTLEDGE" D Telegraph

Globe 071 437 3667 cc 071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (no fee)/071 240 7200 (bkg fee) PATRICK MALAHIDE SINEAD CUSACK SUSAN WOOLDRIDGE MAP OF THE HEART by WILLIAM NICHOLSON Directed by PETER WOOD Now Previewing Eves 7.45 Mats Wed 3.00. Sat 4.00

HER MAJESTY'S Enquiries 0836 430921 071 839 2244 24hr CC 379-4444 (bkg fee) 793 1000 (bkg fee) 497 9977 (bkg fee) Group Sales 930-6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DAVE WILLETTS JILL WASHINGTON MICHAEL CORMICK Iren Barton plays Christine at certain performances Directed by HAROLD PRINCE Eves 7 45 Mats Wed & Sat 3 SOLD OUT UNTIL SEPT 28 1991 40-60 RETURNS SOLD EACH PERF: QUEUE DAILY

KINGS HEAD 071-226 1916. 8pm DECEPTIONS with Anna Carteret & Jamie Glover.

LONDON PALLADIUM 071 437 7373 BRUCE FORSYTH A one man show with orchestra Opens next Monday - 6 Perfs only Evgs 7.30 (Sat sold out)

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL B.O. 071 930 8800 or 24hr Hotline 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 (bkg fee) DAWN FRENCH IN SILLY COW BY BEN ELTON MON - THUR EVEN 8.00 pm. FRI and SAT EVEN 8 45 pm MATS FRI and SAT 5.30 pm

LONDON PALLADIUM BO & CC 071 437 7373 071 437 2055 CC 24hrs 071 497 9977 (no bkg fee) 071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) Groups 071 240 7941 RUSS ABBOT'S PALLADIUM MAD HOUSE The New All laughter Spectacular with Bella Emberg, [illegible] and Company Evgs 7 30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30. MUST END TODAY

LONDON PALLADIUM BO 071 437 7373/437 2055 cc 24hr 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 497 9977 24hr (bkg fee) Previews From 1 June Opens 12 June JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber Starring JASON DONOVAN

LONDON PALLADIUM B/O & CC 437 7373 The Opera North/RSC Production of SHOW BOAT Returns for a limited season from March 13

LYRIC, Shafts Ave 071 437 3686 cc 24hrs (no bkg fee) 379 4444 "SONG & DANCE DYNAMITE" Daily Mail FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE "A JOYOUS WALLOPING HIT" Guardian "The joint never stops jumpin'" Time Out (Mon-Fri 8.00 Sat at 6.00 & 8.45) APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS AND CANCELLATIONS

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 (cc no bkg fee 071 836 3464) FINAL PERFS! ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in VOLPONE by Jonson 2.30pm MERCHANT OF VENICE by Shakespeare 7.30pm "MESMERISING" Gdn. STUDIO 081 741 8701 THE ROUND TABLE by Christoph Hein 4.30 & 8pm

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252: Grps 071 620 0741 24 hr cc bkg fee: 071 497 9977 OLIVIER Today 2.00 & 7 15 Mon 7 15 THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS Grahame adapted by Bennett (SOLD OUT RETURNS ONLY) LYTTELTON Today 2 15 & 7 30 Mon 7 30 (PREVIEWS) THE TRIAL Kafka adapted by Berkoff COTTESLOE Today 2.30 & 7 30 Mon 7 30 THE SHAPE OF THE TABLE Edgar

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PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 First Call 24 hr 836 3464 Ticketmaster 379 4444 K Prowse 071 793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 240 7941/930 6123 Mon-Sat 7 45 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 CHILDREN OF EDEN "EXPLODES ONTO THE STAGE... A RIOT OF COLOUR, ENERGY AND PURE JOY" Today by John Caird Stephen Schwartz

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SHAFTESBURY cc 071 379 5399 cc (no bkg fee) 071-379 4444 /497 9977/793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123 PETER O'TOOLE in "THE COMEDY OF THE YEAR" E. Std JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL by Keith Waterhouse directed by Ned Sherrin Eves 8 30pm. Sat 5 & 8 30pm FROM 20 MAR LIMITED SEASON 10 WEEKS ONLY!

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CINEMAS

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Paul Newman Joanne Woodward in Merchant Ivory's MR AND MRS BRIDGE (PG) Progs at 1.00 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.40

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 071 439 4805. Richard Harris John Hurt Tom Berenger in THE FIELD (12) Progs at 1.30 (not Sun) 3.50 6.10 8.30

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St, off Charing Cross Rd 071 240 9661. Elizabeth Perkins Joan Plowright in Barry Levinson's AVALON (U) Progs at 12.30 (not Sun) 3.05 5.40 8.15

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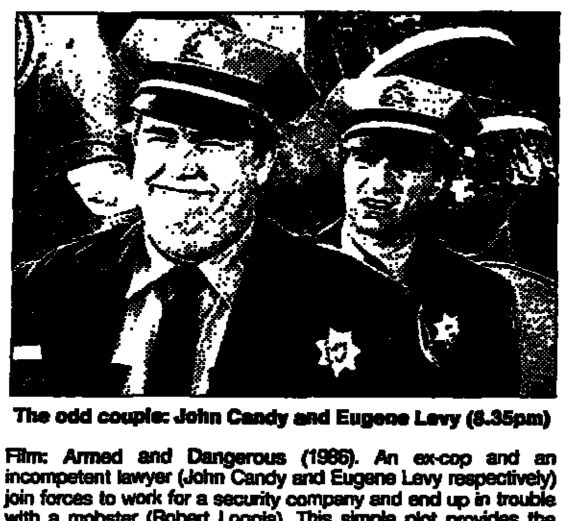
BBC 1

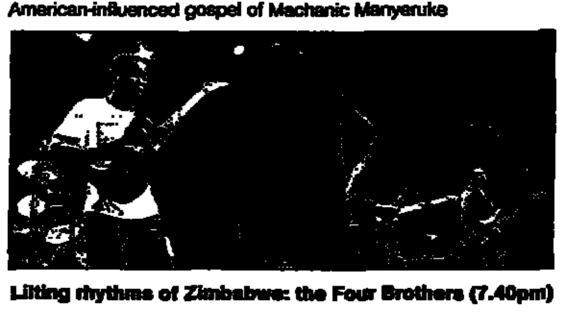
7.05 Open University: Introduction to Pure Maths — Isomorphism
7.30 Babar. Cartoon version of classic children's story about a kingdom of elephants. Babar meets the monster Polomoche
7.55 Eggs 'n' Baker. Cheryl Baker presents another edition of her lively cookery and music show. This week she visits the Welsh Folk Museum at St Fagans, Cardiff, where in the Thirties kitchen she learns how to make laverbread. In the studio her musical guests are Candyland and Banderas 8.35 BraveStarr. Space-age western cartoon series (r)
9.00 Going Live! Children's magazine programme, presented by Sarah Greene and Phillip Schofield, featuring music, competitions, and cult comedians Trevor and Simon. Guests include Frankie Howerd, Dannii Minogue and the *Antiques Roadshow*'s Hugh Scully 12.12 Weather
12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is (subject to change): 12.20 Basketball: the European champions cup match at Wembley Arena between Kingston and Maccabi Tel Aviv; 12.50 News; 12.55 Racing from Haydock Park and Newbury: the 1.00, 1.30 and 2.00 from Hydock Park and the 1.15 and 1.45 from Newbury; 2.15 Boxing: a preview of Wednesday's heavyweight clash between Gary Mason and Lennox Lewis at Wembley; 2.25 Rugby Union: live coverage of the match at Lansdowne Road, Dublin, between Ireland and England; and, at 4.15, highlights of Wales's game against France in Paris; 4.50 Final Score
5.10 News and weather
5.20 Regional News and sport. Wales (to 5.50): Wales on Saturday
5.25 Stay Tooned! Tony Robinson presents cartoons about comedy crime. (Ceefax)
5.50 Jim'll Fix It. Sir James Savile makes some more dreams come true, including four-wheel driving across rough terrain, perfume-making, lighting a stage musical and portrait painting. (Ceefax)
6.25 'Allo 'Allo! Franglais farce with the residents of a Nazi-occupied village in wartime France. The British airmen are stuck in a drain in the village square and Renè (Gorden Kaye) plans to get them out using an old ice-cream van. (Ceefax)
6.55 The Paul Daniels Magic Show. Footballers Paul "Gazza" Gascoigne and former England goalkeeper Peter Shilton aim to repeat their Italia '90 success when they play something called Predictaball. Other guests include Kuniko Narai and the comic Trampoline Guys while Daniels uses his escapology skills to avoid being killed by a giant domino. (Ceefax)
7.40 Bergerac: The Assassin. Still looking for work and a good script, private investigator Bergerac (John Nettles) is summoned to a Brittany castle by the mysterious Hapgood (Christian Burgess) who asks the private eye to find out who is threatening his life. (Ceefax)


The odd couple: John Candy and Eugene Levy (8.35pm)

8.35 Film: Armed and Dangerous (1986). An ex-cop and an incompetent lawyer (John Candy and Eugene Levy respectively) join forces to work for a security company and end up in trouble with a mobster (Robert Loggia). This simple plot provides the excuse for numerous comic gags and car chases, but a strong cast that also includes Meg Ryan (of *When Harry Met Sally*) is let down by a weak script. Directed by Mark L. Lester
10.00 News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Sport and weather
10.20 Carrott's Commercial Breakdown. Comedian Jasper Carrott presents a typically quizzical look at television advertisements from around the world (r)
11.10 Film: The Pawnbroker (1965, b/w). An intense, honest but sometimes overheated drama about a Jewish pawnbroker (Rod Steiger) who survived the Nazi death camps but watched his family perish. Although he has made a new life in New York, he is obsessed by his memories of the Holocaust. Also stars Geraldine Fitzgerald and Brock Peters. Directed by Sidney Lumet, with a Quincy Jones score.
1.00am Weather

BBC 2

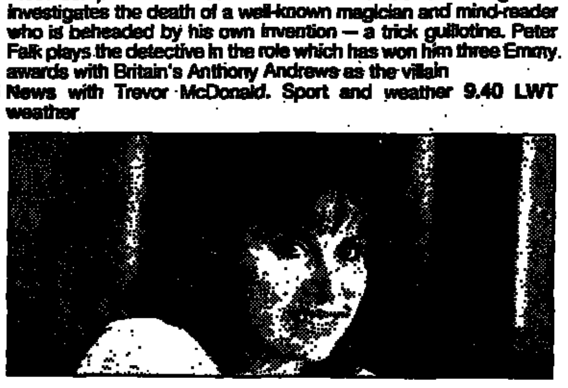
6.50 Open University
2.45 Mahabharat. Episode 38 of the 91-part Indian epic . In Hindi with English subtitles
3.25 Laurel and Hardy Double Bill (b/w). In *Them Thar Hills* (1934) Stan and Ollie go to the country on doctor's orders for a watery remedy while *Tit for Tat* (1935) sees them open a hardware store, with electrifying results
4.05 Film: Caesar and Cleopatra (1946). Vivien Leigh and Claude Rains star in the lavish screen version of George Bernard Shaw's play. The epic encounter between the ageing Roman conqueror and a captivating queen inspired the most spectacular and costly British film of its time. Full of stars and vast sets, the picture is interesting more as an example of Britain apeing the excesses of Hollywood than for merits of its own. Costing more than a £1 million, it took two years to make and involved British sand being shipped to Egypt to achieve the "right colour". Vivien Leigh's performance and moments of humour help to make it watchable. Directed by Gabriel Pascal
6.10 Late Again. This week's highlights from the arts and media magazine *The Late Show*
6.55 News and weather
7.10 Wainwright: From Lakeland's Fells to the Scottish Highlands. The first of five programmes, *On Lakeland's Far Eastern Fells*, finds the indefatigable fellwalker on his home territory, accompanied by Eric Robson (r)
7.40 Rhythms of the World: Viva Zimbabwe.
● CHOICE: Jenny Cathcart's film about the music of Zimbabwe has a higher performance content than some programmes in this series, which means less time available for establishing background and context. But the point is clearly made about the link between music and Zimbabwe's struggle for political independence and the desire to preserve a clear African sound. The gentle lilting rhythms of the many of the examples presented here seem often at odds with the forceful message of the lyrics. At the same time there is a demonstration of how indigenous music has successfully incorporated the tradition of Christian hymn singing established by 19th century European missionaries. The film features Zimbabwe's biggest musical name, Thomas Mapfumo, as well as Stella Chiwese, the Four Brothers and the American-influenced gospel of Machanic Manyeruke


Lilting rhythms of Zimbabwe: the Four Brothers (7.40pm)

8.35 The Godfather Family: A Look Inside.
● CHOICE: A backgrounder to Francis Coppola's *Godfather* trilogy roams entertainingly over 20 years of a film-making saga scarcely less engrossing than the story portrayed on the screen. But this American documentary rarely rises above the level of anecdote (why the studio didn't want Brando and had doubts about Al Pacino) to raise more interesting questions about how the films were set up, their place in the gangster genre and why their cynicism should have so caught the popular mood. What does emerge is the extent to which an epic about one Italian family has been made by another, with Coppola involving his father, sister and, in part three, his daughter, who in the first film was seen as the baby in the baptism scene. The programme will make little sense to anyone who has not seen the films, although the BBC screenings (part two is at 10pm) leave little excuse
9.15 Twin Peaks. A second chance to see Tuesday's episode of the cult thriller series. Mad, bad and dangerous to know, Laura's murderous dad has been stalking Twin Peaks and Ben Horne hears a voice from beyond the grave. Curiouser and curiouser, but when will the white horse reappear, and in whose living room? Stars Kyle MacLachlan and Michael Ontkean (r)
10.00 Film: The Godfather Part II (1974). One of the few cinema sequels (although it is also a prequel) that is as good as, if not better than, the original. Continuing the epic gangster family saga, it picks up the story of the Corleones in 1958, with Michael (Al Pacino) reflecting on his precarious empire. The film both carries the story forward and flashes back to the early life of the Corleones in Sicily. It combines brilliantly judged moments of suspense and violence, superb photography and remarkable performances from Pacino, Robert Duvall and Robert De Niro, who plays the younger version of the family patriarch memorably portrayed in part one by Marlon Brando. Directed by Francis Ford Coppola. (Ceefax). Ends at 1.15am

ITV

6.00 TV-am
9.25 Motormouth. Neil Buchanan, Gaby Roslin, Andy Crane and Steve Johnson present the fast-moving morning show for children. Including a look at *Spitting Image*'s new creation, music from the Dream Warriors, cartoon action from The Real Ghostbusters and two rounds of the Mousetrap game
11.30 The ITV Chart Show. The *Vintage Video* slot features Grace Jones
12.30 Saint & Greavsie. Ian St. John and Jimmy Greaves preview the league football programme with their usual blend of analysis and wit. No doubt they will concentrate on tomorrow's live game between Liverpool, in turmoil after the departure of Kenny Dalglish, and league leaders Arsenal at Anfield
1.00 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather 1.05 LWT News and weather
1.10 Grand Sportsmasters. Dickie Davies hosts the quiz to find the ultimate sports brain, as three more contestants look for a place in the quarter-finals
1.40 World Sport Special. A look at the week's major sporting action from around the world. Followed by The Day. Twenty-four hours with the Operation Raleigh organisation (r)
2.10 Golf: PGA Tour '91. Action from the Chrysler Cup
3.05 Snooker: The Pearl Assurance British Open. The opening frames of the best-of-19-frame final introduced by Tony Francis from the Assembly Rooms, Derby, with commentary by John Pulman, Rex Williams, Mark Wildman, Jim Meadowcroft and Dennis Taylor
4.45 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather
5.00 Results Service presented by Elton Welsby
5.10 LWT News and weather.
5.15 Beverly Hills 90210. More drama in the lives of the perfect American family unit, painfully thrust into the wild and crazy lifestyle of Beverly Hills. No moral is left unsaid, no cliché left unused in their desperate struggle to adjust to their new surroundings. (Oracle)
6.10 Catchphrase. Game show hosted by Roy Walker
6.40 You Bet! Former *Game for a Laugh* presenter Matthew Kelly hosts the public participation show in which celebrities (this week Johnny Briggs, Annabel Giles and Andrew O'Connor) challenge various attention-seeking members of the public to perform bizzare acts, such as playing tiddlywinks with the aid of a fork lift truck, for our entertainment and for the benefit of charity
7.40 Columbo Goes to the Guillotine. When murder rears its ugly head, the dishevelled but disarmingly brilliant homicide detective lights his cigar, dons his wrinkled mac and proceeds to solve the most complicated cases in his inimitable fashion. Tonight he investigates the death of a well-known magician and mind-reader who is beheaded by his own invention — a trick guillotine. Peter Falk plays the detective in the role which has won him three Emmy awards with Britain's Anthony Andrews as the villain
9.25 News with Trevor McDonald. Sport and weather 9.40 LWT weather


Michael Aspel's guest: actress Stefanie Powers (9.45pm)

9.45 Aspel & Company. Michael Aspel is joined by Hollywood actress Stefanie Powers, actor Kevin Whateley, who plays Sgt Lewis in *Inspector Morse*, and comedy impressionist Rory Bremner
10.30 Snooker: The Pearl Assurance British Open. The closing frames of the final from the Assembly Rooms, Derby. Introduced by Tony Francis
12.35am Film: The Streetfighter (1975). Tough and atmospheric melodrama set in New Orleans during the Thirties. Charles Bronson stars as a drifter determined to win enough money to escape from the city and the depression through a series of prizefights. A typically moody performance from Bronson, who is supported by James Coburn, as his manager, and his late wife, Jill Ireland. Directed by Walter Hill
2.10 Adventure. Footage of man's battles against the elements
2.40 American College Football. Texas v Texas A and M
3.40 Pausenfullers. Relaxing landscapes backed by soothing music
4.00 The Hit Man and Her. Pete Waterman and Michaela Strachan host the show that features the best of British clubland with the hottest sounds, dancing and fashion
5.00 The Twilight Zone: The Wall. The cult journey into space, time and the imagination
5.30 ITN Morning News with Anne Leuchars. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Comic Book. Cartoons 7.00 Trans World Sport
8.00 Channel 4 Daily
9.15 Channel 4 Racing: The Morning Line 9.25 Sing and Swing (r) 9.30 Same Difference (r). (Teletext) 10.00 Free For All (r)
10.30 Film: The Runaway Bus (1954, b/w). It's worth hopping on to this gentle comedy, capably steered by Frankie Howerd on his film début, albeit along well-worn lines. A bus picks up fog-bound passengers at London airport but gets lost itself. Sitting quietly on board are a mixture of thieves and detectives. With Margaret Rutherford and Petula Clark. Directed by Val Guest
12.00 Saturday Men (b/w). A chance to see former England manager Bobby Robson as few will remember him in this vintage documentary profile of West Bromwich Albion football club
12.30 The Munsters (b/w). Creaky old comedy about a family of ghouls which still raises a chuckle (r)
1.00 Film: The Student Prince (1954). Predictable, impoverished operetta about a stuck-up prince (Edmund Purdom) sent to Heidelberg university to learn about life and falling in love with a waitress. Mario Lanza sings, but was too fat to be seen on screen. Directed by Richard Thorpe
3.00 Film: Seven Hills of Rome (1958). Mario Lanza had obviously slimmed down enough for this one, in which he does a lot of singing but not much else. He is an American television star who goes to Rome after a tiff with his girlfriend and there falls in love with a local woman (Marisa Allasio). Directed by Roy Rowland
4.55 Visit Prague. The history of Prague in a six-minute cartoon
5.05 Brookside. Omnibus edition of the earthy Liverpool soap (r). (Teletext)
6.30 Right To Reply. Liz Forgan, Channel 4's director of programming, defends the screening of last Monday's film *Vinh Linh Steel Ramparts*
7.00 The World This Week. Includes a report on what the Allied victory in the Gulf will mean for the future of Iraq. Followed by Weather
8.00 The Land of Europe: Rift Valleys.
● CHOICE: A report from Llanfrothen in north Wales highlights attempts to preserve the Welsh language in the face of English incomers. To an extent it is familiar story. The young Welsh move out for better jobs and more money, the English come in to buy holiday homes or to retire. But the story goes back to the 19th century when the growth of slate quarrying gave the area both an industry and a special Welsh culture. When the slate industry collapsed, Llanfrothen was forced to turn to tourism and the cultural homogeneity was broken for ever. The film reveals that instead of bombing the holiday homes, the villagers have tried to come to terms with the new arrivals who have made their contribution to social harmony by sending their children to school to learn Welsh. One of the locals admits: "We are too ready to let the English take over and then find fault with them, whereas the problem may be in ourselves". (Teletext)
9.00 LA Law. Superior American drama series about a Los Angeles law firm (r)
10.00 4-Play: In The Border Country.
● CHOICE: A brooding drama from the Irish playwright Daniel Mornin offers a contemporary version of the *Oresteia* in the story of two Ulster families locked in a blood feud which is pursued to the death. Since the Irish troubles have the inevitability of Greek tragedy the comparison is hardly forced, although Mornin's concern is the personal rather than the political. In a strongly cast production, Juliet Stephenson plays the woman who changes family allegiance after plotting the death of her violent husband (Sean McGinley), only to fall victim to the revenge of her children. Sean Bean is the assassin and Saskia Reeves his mistress. The director Thaddeus O'Sullivan, whose first feature film *December Bride* was released last month, opts for a portentous style, mixing gloomily lit interiors and landcapes drained of colour which are populated by lone figures framed against the sky
11.10 The Secret Cabaret. Illusionist Simon Drake brings the inanimate to life, Ricky Jay demonstrates why he never becomes caught up in card games and James Randi and Geno Munardi expose some underhand chicanery common to fraudsters (r)
11.40 After Dark. Open-ended discussion on the cost of the peace in the Gulf. With a Palestinian businesswoman, an Israeli arms broker and an international banker

Irish blood feud: Juliet Stevenson, Saskia Reeves (10.00pm)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Elephant Boy 6.30 The Flying Kiwi 7.00 Fun Factory 11.00 The Bionic Woman 12.00 Beyond 2000 1.00pm Combat 2.00 WWF Wrestling Challenge 3.00 Cool Cube 5.00 The Magician 6.00 Parker Lewis Can't Lose 6.30 The Addams Family 7.00 Free Spirit 7.30 In Living Color 8.00 China Beach 9.00 Designing Women 9.30 Murphy Brown 10.00 The Happening 11.30 Monsters 12.00 A Twist in the Tale 12.30am Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra satellite.
News on the hour
5.00am Sunrise 9.30 Target 11.30 Our World 1.30pm The Reporters 2.30 Our World 4.30 Those Were the Days 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 The Reporters 8.30 Our World 10.30 The Reporters 11.30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 Our World 2.30 NBC News 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Those Were the Days

SKY NEWS

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
News on the hour.
5.00am Sunrise 9.30 Target 11.30 Our World 1.30pm Opera: Puccini's Madame Butterfly 4.30 Karl Muenchinger Profile 6.30 The Reporters 7.30 Dance: The Dance Theatre of Harlem 10.00 Sky World News Tonight 10.30 Jazz: Chick Corea and Steve Kujala 11.30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 Our World 2.30 NBC News 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Those Were the Days

SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
8.00 Gole (1982) The 1982 World Cup finals
10.00 Devil's Hill: A Tasmanian drama
12.00 Indiscreet (1958) Wealthy American diplomat Cary Grant falls in love with actress Ingrid Bergman
2.00pm Imagine: John Lennon (1988): Documentary about the former Beatle
4.00 Strange Brew (1983): Two brothers stumble upon a brewery owner's plot to drug the world's beer
6.00 Codename Emerald (1985): A Nazi double agent (Ed Harris) becomes embroiled in a plot to kidnap a young soldier who holds the plans for the D-day invasion
7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 Running on Empty (1989): Sixties radicals Judd Hirsch and Christine Lahti are still hounded by government law enforcement agencies
10.00 Jack's Back (1988): An adaptation of the Jack the Ripper story in which a doctor (James Spader) is the prime suspect for a series of murders which occur 100 years to the day after the original Ripper killings
11.35 Reform School Girls (1986) A young girl has to fend for herself when she is thrown into a female penitentiary
1.05am First Blood (1982): Sylvester Stallone stars as the resourceful Vietnam veteran pitting his wits against the local police of a small American town
2.35 Satisfaction (1988) A rock group lands an engagement at a summer seaside resort. Starring Liam Neeson and Debbie Harry
4.05 Fair Game (1989): Trudie Styler plays a game of hide and seek with a poisonous snake. Ends at 5.30

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Children's Programming 7.00 Fun Factory 9.00 Mobil 1 Motor Sports News 9.30 Big Wheels 10.00 Ice Speedway 11.00 Saturday Alive: World Cup Skiing; Bobsleigh World Cup; Mediterranean Open Golf; Cycling — The Het Volk Race; BOC Round the World Yacht Race 6.00pm International Motor Sport 7.00 Freestyle Skiing 7.30 Bobsleigh World Cup 8.00 Ringside — Live Boxing 10.00 World Cup Skiing 11.00 Bobsleigh World Cup 11.30 Cycling 12.30am Mediterranean Golf

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.30am Citroen Ski Europe 7.30 Hippodrome French Racing 8.00 World Snooker Classics 10.00 ATP Volvo Tennis Indoor Men 12.00 Stop — Mud and Monsters 1.00pm NBA Basketball 3.00 Argentina Football 4.00 Powersports International 5.00 Pool — Billiard Brunswick Masters 6.00 Action Auto 6.35 Weekend Live Ice Hockey 9.35 Weekend Live US PGA 11.30 Yachting ANZ 12 Metre Challenge 1991 12.30am Pro Box 2.30 Action Auto 3.00 US Nissan PGA Los Angeles Open 5.00 Ice Hockey NHL 1991

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
12.00 Johnny Ringo 12.30pm The Bill Dana Show 1.00 The Joan Rivers Show 1.50 He Shoots! He Scores! 2.45 Spain Spain Holiday 3.00 World Class Championship Wrestling 4.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 Close 10.00 Satellite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

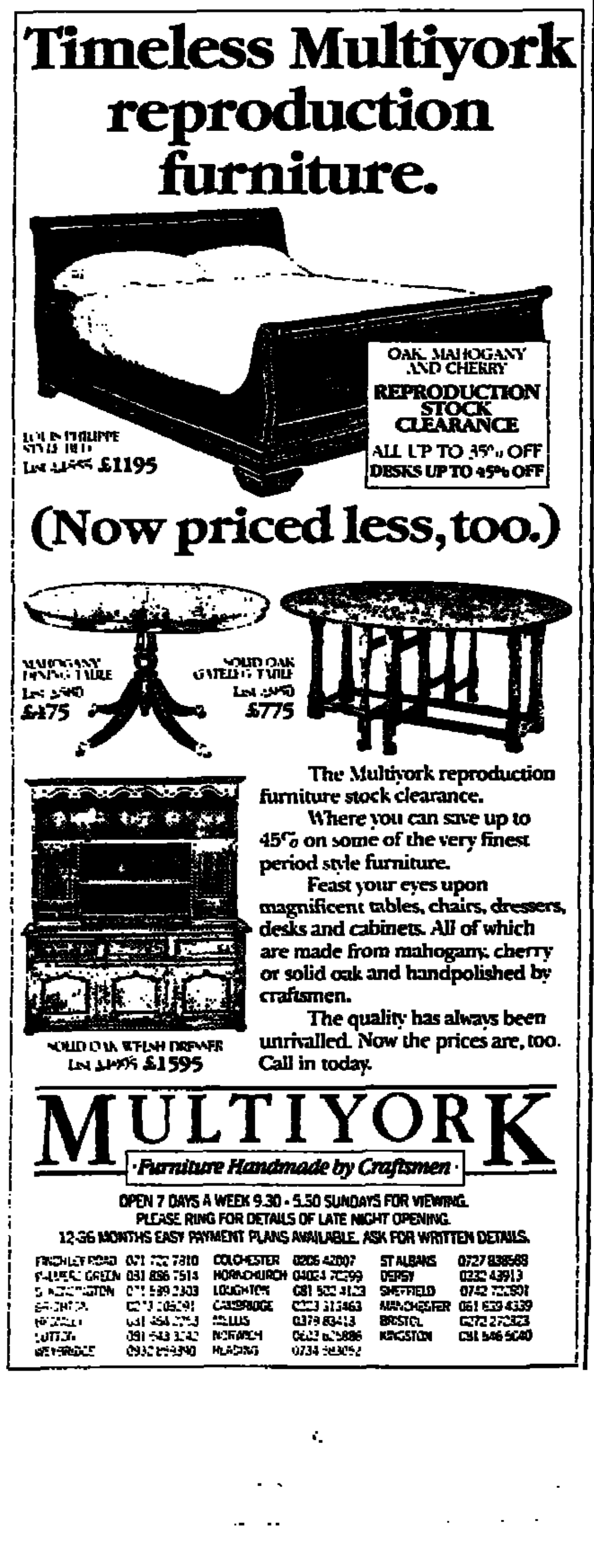
● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
12.30pm Cleopatra (1934): Claudette Colbert stars as the Egyptian queen in Cecil B. DeMille's classic
2.15 Who Has Seen the Wind (1977): A young boy's life in Saskatchewan during the Depression
4.00 Big Top Pee Wee (1988). Sequel to the hit comedy *Pee Wee's Big Adventure*
5.50 Time Bandits (1981): Terry Gilliam's inspired visual fantasy in which a bored schoolboy is taken back through history to meet legends such as Robin Hood and Napoleon. Starring Sean Connery and John Cleese
7.45 The Film Charts
8.00 The Karate Kid III (1989): Ralph Macchio uses his martial arts expertise to fight his arch rival
10.00 Deathwish III (1985): The former architect turned vigilante (Charles Bronson) returns to New York to help a friend fight off a ruthless gang
11.35 Extreme Prejudice (1987): A Texas ranger and a drug baron, once childhood friends, declare war on each other. Starring Nick Nolte and Powers Boothe
1.20am Streets of Justice (1985): A grieving man, embittered by the legal system's failings, turns vigilante. Starring John Laughlin. Ends at 2.55

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
10.30am Snooker 12.30pm Rodeo Championships 1.30 Racing Today 2.00 Sportstalk 2.30 Live Test Match Cricket: West Indies v Australia, from Jamaica 8.00 Ringside 10.00 Live Test Match Cricket 11.30 Racing Today 12.00 Test Match Cricket 1.00am Ringside

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
8.00am Twenty hours of rock and pop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RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Jenny Costello 7.00 The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 10.00 Dave Lee Travis 1.00pm Adrian Juste 2.00 Can You Steal It? The case for and against the controversial technique of sampling is put by Anne Dudley of the Art of Noise, Bill Drumond of the KLF and Tony Banks of Genesis 3.00 The Saturday Sequence 7.00 The Saturday Rock Show 10.00 In Concert: New Model Army, recorded at the Berlin Eissporthalle last November 11.00-2.00am John Peel

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am Dave Bussey 6.00 Graham Knight 7.45 Take 2! 8.05 Ronnie Hilton with Sounds of the Fifties 9.00 Brian Matthew with Sounds of the Sixties 10.00 Anne Robinson 12.00 Gerald Harper 1.30pm The News Huddlines 2.00 Robin Ray on Record 3.00 Gerry Anderson 4.45 Phil Kelsall at the console of the Wurlitzer Organ in the Tower Ballroom, Blackpool 5.00 Cinema 2 5.30 Music by . . . Miklos Rozsa: The last in the series of weekly conversations with movie composers 6.00 Bob Holness Requests the Pleasure . . . Last in the series 7.00 Jazz Score 7.30 Saturday Gala Night: The Romantic World of Ivor Novello 9.30 Easy Does It 10.00 Radio 2 Arts Programme 12.05am Cinema 2 (broadcast at 5.00pm) 12.30 Len Jackson with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service; Newsdesk 6.30 Morning Edition, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News; Sport 9.00 Sport 9.02 On Your Marks, incl 10.00, 11.00 Sport 12.00 News: Sport on 4 Plus 1 (broadcast on Radio 4 at 9.05am) 12.30pm Sportscall Phone-in quiz. Tel 0345 909 693 1.30 Sport on 5 with John Inverdale Rugby Union Five Nations Championship Ireland v England, France v Wales; Football Barclays League, incl second-half commentary Racing from Haydock (2.00) Greenalls Gold Cup Plus snooker cricket and golf 5.00 Sports Report 6.00 As Radio 4 10.00 Sport 10.15 As Radio 4 11.00 Sport 11.10 World Service People and Politics 11.40 International Money Programme 11.55 Words of Faith 12.00-12.05am News and Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT 5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.56 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7.00 World News 7.15 24 Hours 8.00 World News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 A Jolly Good Show 9.00 World News 9.15 Seeing Stars 9.30 Financial News 9.39 Sports Roundup 9.45 Network UK 10.00 World News 10.15 Letter from America 10.30 People and Politics 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Midi Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 World News 12.15pm Multitrack 3 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 World News 1.15 24 Hours 2.00 World News 2.15 Club 648 2.30 Sportsworld 3.00 World News 3.15 Sportsworld (cont) 4.00 World News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News and Features in German 4.59 Travel News 5.00 News Summary 5.15 Sportsworld: Final Results 5.30 Londres Soir 6.14 News Headlines in English 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 News in German 8.00 World News 8.09 Seeing Stars 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Meridian 9.00 World News 9.15 From Our Own Correspondent 9.45 Write On... 9.35 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newshour 11.00 World News 11.09 Book Choice 11.15 A Jolly Good Show 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am A Year in Paris on £100 12.45 Play of the Week: Where the Lovemaking Does Go On, incl 1.00 News 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 The Jews of Eastern Europe 3.00 World News 3.15 Society Today 3.30 From Our Own Correspondent 3.50 Write On... 3.59 Weather 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Personal View 4.45 News and Press Review in German

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 2.10pm-3.05 The A-Team 12.35am Film: Murders in The Rue Morgue (Jason Robards, Christine Kaufmann) 2.10 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 Indy Car World 5.00-5.30 Peppino

BORDER

As London except: 1.40pm The Silk Road 2.40-3.05 Spectacular World of Guinness Records 12.35am Film: Deliver Us From Evil (George Kennedy, Bradford Dillman) 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten

CENTRAL

As London except: 2.10pm-3.05 Matlock 12.35am Film: Saturday Night Out 2.30 Hodson Confidential 3.00 CinemAttractions 3.30 America's Top Ten 4.00 American College Football 5.00-5.30 Central Jobfinder '91

CHANNEL

As London except: 2.10pm-3.05 The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams 5.15-5.45 The Winjun Pom 12.30am Film: Body of Evidence (Margot Kidder, Barry Bostwick) 2.10 America's Top 10 2.40 CinemAttractions 3.10 American College Football 4.05 Adventure Bound 5.00-5.30 Supercar

GRAMPIAN

As London except: 1.40pm Abairt 2.10-3.05 Coronation Street 12.35am Film: Deliver Us From Evil 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten

GRANADA

As London except: 1.40pm The Oldest Rookie 2.35-3.05 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 5.15-6.10 First Division Football 12.35am Film: Deliver Us From Evil 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30 Comics — the Ninth Art 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten

HTV WEST

As London except: 2.10pm-3.05 The Young Riders 12.35am Hardball 1.30 Film: Disaster on the Coastliner 3.15 New Music 4.10 Raw Power 5.05-5.30 Cover Story: Don Johnson

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 5.15pm-6.10 Surprise! Surprise!

SCOTTISH

As London except: 1.40pm Here Come the Double Deckers 2.05 This is America, Charlie Brown 2.35-3.05 Guinness Records 12.35am Desperado 2.25 The Grand Ole Opry 2.50 Film: A Prize of Arms 4.50 Weir's Way 5.20-5.30 Jobfinder

TSW

As London except: 1.40pm The South West Week 2.10-3.05 Badminton 12.35am Film: The Family Rico 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten

TVS

As London except: 2.10pm-3.05 The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams 12.35am The TVS Match 1.35 America's Top 10 2.05 CinemAttractions 2.35 American College Football 3.35 Adventure Bound 4.30 California Highways 4.55-5.30 Supercar

TYNE TEES

As London except: 2.10pm-3.05 The A-Team 12.35am Film: Deliver us from Evil 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten

ULSTER

As London except: 1.40pm Wrestling 2.40-3.05 Munsters Today 12.35am Film: Deliver us from Evil 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 CinemAttractions 4.30 Comics — The Ninth Art 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.40pm The A-Team 2.35 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 3.00-3.05 Mister Magoo 12.35am Film: The Vampire Lovers 2.00 The Hit Man and Her 4.00 Derrick 5.10-5.30 Highway 5

S4C

Starts: 6.00am The Art of Landscape 7.00 Transworld Sport 8.00 C4 Daily 9.15 Morning Line 9.25 Sing and Swing 9.30 Same Difference 10.00 The Garden Club 10.30 Free For All 11.00 Travelog 11.30 Remote Control 12.00 Jonathan Ross 12.30 Sumo 1.00 North Pole Expedition 1.30 Ffrainc v Cymru 3.40 Film: Cheer Up! 5.00 Mr Magoo 5.05 Brookside 6.30 Newyddion 6.45 Canigymru 1991 7.50 Cyngerdd Sobin A'R Smaelied 8.20 Y Maes Chwarae 9.30 Film on 4: Letter to Brezhnev 11.15 The Land of Robert Burns 11.40-1.40 After Dark

RTE 1

Starts: 9.00am Scratch Saturday 1.00 Chips 1.50 News followed by You Ruined My Life 2.45 Orphans of the Wild 3.05 Beyond 2000 3.50 Film: A Tiger Walks 5.25 Yo Surfs Up 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 News 6.15 Mailbag 6.40 Talkabout 7.05 Star Trek: The Next Generation 8.00 Secrets 9.00 News 9.20 Dallas 10.15 Kenny Live 11.35 Rules of Engagement 12.35am News 12.40 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 12.00 Sign of the Times 12.30pm News 12.34 Sports Stadium 6.00 Death Valley Days 6.30 Seachtain 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 The Mind 8.00 News 8.10 North and South 9.50 Beyond Reach 10.25 Film: The List of Adrian Messenger 1.15am Close

RADIO 3

6.35am Open University (FM only): Open Forum: News and Features about the OU
6.55 Weather and News Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert: Tchaikovsky (Ballet, Sleeping Beauty — excerpts: London Symphony Orchestra under André Previn)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Rossini (Overture, L'Italiana in Algeri: London Symphony Orchestra under Claudio Abbado); Kreisler (Caprice Viennois: Oscar Shumsky, violin, Milton Kaye, piano); Cui (Deux morceaux: Chamber Orchestra of Europe under Gardiner, with Steven Isserlis, cello); Liszt (La Campanella: Jorge Bolet, piano); Stanford (Concert piece for organ and orchestra: Ulster Orchestra under Vernon Handley, with Gillian Weir, organ)
8.30 News
8.35 BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra under Howard Williams, led by Barry Haskey, performs Wagner (Prelude and Liebestod, Tristan and Isolde); Berwald (Symphony in C, Singulière) (r)
9.30 Saturday Review, with Richard Osborne. Record Review — Building a Library: John Steane on Bizet's Carmen; Paul Banks reviews new records of Bruckner, Mahler, Busoni and Diepenbrock. 10.40 Record Release: Diepenbrock (Die Nacht: Hague Residentie Orchestra under Hans Vonk, with Linda Finnie, mezzo); Mozart (Quartet in D, K 575; Salomon Quartet). 11.22 John Steane discusses three new sets of the complete Caruso. 11.48 Bruckner (Symphony No 3 — 1877 version: Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra under Haitink)
12.55pm Words: Voice-over Voices. A reflection by Paul Vaughan (r)
1.00 News
1.05 Pierre Amoyal and Pascal Rogé: The violinist and pianist perform Schoenberg (Phantasy, Op 47); Brahms (Sonata in G, Op 78); Prokofiev (Five Melodies, Op 35a)
2.05 Langham Chamber Orchestra under Ronald Corp, led by Belinda Bunt, performs Suk (Serenade for String Orchestra, Op 6; Meditation, Op 35d)
2.45 New Chamber Ensemble of Wales, with Martin Jones, piano, performs Mozart (Quintet for piano and wind in E flat, K 452); Daniel Jones (Divertimento for wind quintet — first broadcast); Poulenc (Sextet)
3.45 Tuning Up
● CHOICE: Should Mark Wigglesworth prematurely lay down his baton, which seems highly unlikely since it was only two years ago that he won the Kondrashin prize for conducting, he will have a bright future as a music programme presenter, preferably on Radio 3. If his conducting of the BBC SO in Shostakovich's Symphony No 14 this afternoon is as revelatory as the resumé of it that he gives to Chris de Souza, then we are all going to be a lot wiser about the thinking behind this death-fixated work
5.00 Jazz Record Requests
5.45 Third Opinion: Includes reviews of Peter Weir's film *Green Card*, Opera Factory's *Marriage of Figaro* and *Before the Rainy Season*, a novel by Gert Hofmann
6.30 Luisa Miller: The first of three operas live from New York's Met. Chorus and Orchestra of the New York Metropolitan Opera under Nello Santi perform Verdi's three-act opera after Schiller's drama, *Kabale und Liebe*. Sung in Italian. With Luciano Pavarotti, tenor, as Rodolfo; Paul Plishka, bass, as Count Walter, his father; Leo Nucci, baritone, as Miller; Susan Dunn, soprano, as Luisa Miller his daughter. 7.30 John Rockwell, the *New York Times*'s music critic, talks to Nicholas Kenyon about the state of music in New York. 8.00 Act 2. 8.45 New York Streetscapes. The architectural historian Christopher Gray explores the changing landscape of the city by visiting three addresses, the first being 1107 Fifth Avenue. 9.05 Act 3
10.00 Issues (r)
10.25 Robert Simpson (String Trio, 1987: Members of the Delmé String Quartet; String Quartet No 10, 1983: Coull String Quartet; Symphony No 9, 1987: Bournemouth SO)
12.00 News 12.05am Close

RADIO 4

● FM: Most scheduled programmes will be suspended until 6pm to give news from the Gulf.

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Farming Week 6.50 Prayer for the Day 7.00 Today, incl 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.55, 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Sport on 4
9.30 Breakaway: A visit to south Wales
10.00 News; Loose Ends
11.00 News; The Week in Westminster
11.30 Europhile (new series): Max Easterman discovers what Lithuanians feel about the Soviet Union and the reaction of Austrians to the Mozart bicentenary
12.00 Money Box
12.25pm The News Quiz (new series): Barry Took quizzes Richard Ingrams, Alan Coren and their guests on the week's news 12.55 Weather
1.00 News
1.10 Any Questions? James Naughtie is joined in Andover by George Robertson, MP, Mary Kaldor, William Wallace, and John Patten, MP (r) 1.55 Shipping
2.00 News; Any Answers? 071-580 4411. Listeners can call James Naughtie with their views on the issues raised in *Any Questions?*
2.30 Saturday Playhouse: Miss Peabody's Inheritance. An adaptation of Elizabeth Jolley's comic novel. Miss Peabody (Auriol Smith), a spinster and an avid reader, engages in a correspondence with an Australian writer (Madi Hedd) which promises to change her life for ever
4.00 News. Going South. A Place of Sun and Singing. Robert Weddle concludes the 1,000 mile walk from Chartres to Assissi, which he first undertook with fellow student Anthony Hatford 30 years earlier (r)
4.30 Science Now: The ethical issues surrounding embryo research and gene therapy
5.00 God and Caesar: Mike Wooldridge talks to David Lange, the former prime minister of New Zealand, about the beliefs which underpinned his political campaigns and decisions (r)
5.25 Week Ending (r) 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 News; Sports Round-Up
6.25 Citizens: Omnibus edition (s)
7.10 Stop the Week (s)
7.45 Classic Serial: The Forsyte Chronicles
● CHOICE: And so, after 23 weeks, the Galsworthy saga ends — a shamefully underrated and under-publicised radio event, with many more peaks than troughs. Episode 23 is concerned almost entirely with the divorce action brought by Sir Gerald (James Warwick) against Clare (Miranda Foster) and the burgeoning romance between Dinny (Sophie Thompson) and Eustace (David Yelland). It contains the question-and-answer exchange between Fleur and Dinny ("Well, what is the moral of all this?" . . . "Don't marry!") which, had it been acted on in episode one, would have robbed us of good reasons for staying home on the following 22 Saturday nights (s)
8.45 Kaleidoscope: Early Music. The introduction of classical music to children (s)
9.15 Music in Mind, with Brian Kay (s)
9.50 Ten to Ten (s) 9.59 Weather
10.00 News
10.15 The Gift Doth Me Inflame: Andrew Green tells the story of Wilfred Brown, singer, broadcaster and lifelong Quaker (s)
10.45 The Poetry of Popular Song: Irving Kahal — "I'll Be Seeing You". Roy Dean considers the work of some lesser-known American lyric writers
11.00 Richard Baker Compares Notes with Anthony and Patricia Godwin, founders of the Palm Court Theatre Orchestra (s) (r)
11.30 Girls Will Be Girls: Songs and sketches with the Bobo Girls (s)
12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; Melody FM 104.9.

BBC 1

6.45 Open University

8.55 Playdays (r)

9.15 Come Holy Spirit. Religious series exploring how the Holy Spirit works in individuals and communities

10.00 France Actuelle. The second of five films about modern-day France (r). Wales (to 12.05) See You Sunday 10.25 México Vivo. An introduction to Mexican Spanish (r) 10.50 Step Up To Wordpower. For adults who have problems with reading and writing (r). (Ceefax) 11.15 A Way With Numbers. Practical maths for adults 11.40 Bazaar (r)

12.05 See Hear! Magazine for the deaf and hard-of-hearing

12.30 Country File. Chris Baines reports on the battle to control Northern Ireland's Strangford Lough. Wales: Farming in Wales 12.55 Weather

1.00 News followed by On The Record. Jonathan Dimbleby talks to shadow industry secretary, Gordon Brown, about Labour's industrial policies

2.00 EastEnders. Omnibus edition (r). (Ceefax)

3.00 Film: One Born Every Minute (1967). A soldier on the run from the army meets a conman who teaches him the tricks of his trade. The soldier sets off on a new career until he meets the girl of his dreams and falls in love. Likeable and underrated comedy with George C. Scott, Michael Sarrazin and Sue Lyon. Directed by Irvin Kershner 4.40 The Pink Panther Show. Cartoons

5.00 The Clothes Show. A look at 30 years of new items for the Barbie doll wardrobe and the influence of African ideas on design. Plus bald heads and clothes for people in their thirties

5.25 Antiques Roadshow from Whitehaven in Cumbria. (Ceefax)

6.10 OK2 Talk Feelings. Discussing bereavement. (Ceefax)

6.20 News with Moira Stuart. Weather

6.35 Songs of Praise from Westminster Abbey. (Ceefax)

7.15 Brush Strokes. Tired comedy charting the successes and failures of an amorous decorator. Starring Karl Howman

7.45 Lovejoy: Raise the Hispanic. Ian McShane as the charming antiques dealer, not averse to a little chicanery. When Lovejoy discovers that a young man has been murdered after a society wedding, he becomes the unwitting possessor of revealing information. Dudley Sutton as Tinker and Chris Jury as Eric provide the resident support. (Ceefax)

8.35 Butterflies. Carla Lane's perceptive late Seventies sitcom, not as acclaimed as the more recent *Bread*, but of the same quality. Ria (Wendy Craig) is ready to break free from her family, but with the rugged ego of husband Ben (Geoffrey Palmer) at stake, her flit to freedom becomes more like a tug-of-war (r). (Ceefax)

9.10 News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Weather

9.25 That's Life! presented by Esther Rantzen

10.00 Mastermind from the Meeting House Chapel at the University of Sussex. Tonight's specialist subjects are the life and ghost stories of M.R. James; Norman architecture in England 1050-1180; Hollywood films 1930-1950; and Royal Air Force Bomber Command 1939-1945

Debate about the right to live: Nancy Cruzan (10.30pm)

10.30 Heart of the Matter: Coma

● CHOICE: A new series of ethical dilemmas opens with a report from the United States on the right to life and the right to end it. Coma victims, people said by the medical profession to be a "persistent vegetative state", may survive for years but have no control over their functions and not recognise their closest relatives. Joan Bakewell concentrates on one of the most famous cases, that of Nancy Cruzan who was brain damaged in a car crash in 1983. The family decided that the best thing was to help her die. But the Cruzans ran into opposition from a determined pro-life lobby in their Bible-belt state of Missouri and finally had to take the matter to the United States Supreme Court. The issue seems less contentious in this country, where "passive" euthanasia is endorsed by the British Medical Association

11.05 The Days And Nights Of Molly Dodd. American comedy drama

11.30 Mosaic: Evidence Unseen. Are young black Britons being "criminalised" by the courts?

12.00 The Sky At Night. Patrick Moore explains how the Pioneer and Voyager spacecraft have helped us to learn more about the planet Jupiter and its group of moons

12.20am Mahabharat. Episode 38 (r) 1.00 Weather

BBC 2

6.35 Open University

12.00 Regional Political Programmes. Wales: See Hear; Northern Ireland: Situations Vacant

12.30 Scrutiny. With news from the foreign affairs select committee and the House of Lords committee's discussion on the crisis facing British science. (Ceefax)

1.00 An Introduction to Psychology. Open University programme (r)

1.25 Film: Heidi's Song (1982). Animated musical version of Johanna Spyri's classic book about a lively Swiss girl sent to live with her dour grandfather in the Alps. Featuring songs by Sammy Cahn and Burton Lane, and the voices of Sammy Davis Jr, Lorne Greene and Margery Gray

3.00 First Stage. Revealing film about the trials and tribulations of students from the Royal Colleges of Art and Music, and the English National Ballet School, collaborating on a dramatic contemporary dance piece

3.30 From The Heart of The World. A remarkable documentary in which the reclusive and ancient Kogi tribe of the Colombian rain forest give unprecedented insights into their society (r)

5.00 Rugby Special. Highlights of yesterday's internationals between Ireland and England in Dublin and France and Wales in Paris

6.00 The Clive James Interview. The guest is comedian Dave Allen (postponed from last week)

6.35 The Money Programme. Tom Maddocks reports on how the TSB is dealing with the changed financial climate of the Nineties

7.15 Natural World: Even The Animals Must Be Free. The conflict between conservation and tourism in Africa's most beautiful reserves is keenly felt by David, a tour guide with a passion for his country's wildlife. The film joins him in Kenya as he explains that the wild animals of Africa must increasingly pay their way in order to survive. As tourists flock to Kenya, the old, wild and free Africa is disappearing. (Ceefax)

8.05 Naked Hollywood: Four Million Dollars is Cheap. Another safari into the Hollywood jungle, concentrating on the agents who act as brokers between the stars and the studios. Those interviewed include Sam Cohn (who represents Meryl Streep and Sigourney Weaver) and Ed Limato (Mel Gibson, Richard Gere and Michelle Pfeiffer).

8.55 How Are The Kids? Euzhan Palcy, the Martinique-born director who gained a higher profile recently with her first big Hollywood film *A Dry White Season*, wrote and directed this startling film about the tragedy of children in the Third World. A young African woman grieves over her sick child and her sung lament haunts the village. (r)

9.05 Mikhail Baryshnikov: An Evening at American Ballet Theatre. Baryshnikov and his ballet company present two contrasting works by great American choreographers. In *Duets*, Merce Cunningham used John Cage's music for six dancers; *La Sonambula* is George Balanchine's passionate distillation of romanticism, set to music by Vittorio Rieti (r)

10.00 Screen Two: The Laughter of God.

● CHOICE: Whatever else might be said about it, Tony Bicat's film has the merit of getting straight to the point. In the first five minutes we learn that the seemingly perfect marriage between high-flying architect Peter Firth and his wife Amanda Donohoe is a myth. Each would be happy to see the other dead and is poised to do something about it. Within ten minutes we see both parties engaged in sizzling affairs, he with a rap actress and she with an art dealer. Adultery and hints of murder are not bad to be getting on with but Bicat cannot resist being gruesome as well as he works in a third element, the discovery of ancient human remains on a building site. Donohoe confirms that she is one of our most compelling screen presences and Firth presents a frightening study of a man reeling out of control. *The Laughter of God* is always watchable, often unsettling and faintly unbelievable. (Ceefax)

11.30 Snub. Innovative music show (r)

12.00 Rapido. Antoine de Caunes meets Michael Penn, brother of actor Sean, and introduces music from English rap bands (r). Ends at 12.35am

An architect of deceit and murder: Peter Firth (10.00pm)

ITV

6.00 TV-am includes, at 7.30 Frost on Sunday

9.25 The Disney Club. Early morning fun with John Eccleston, Andrea Boardman and Gordon Inglis. Andrea reaches for the stars with the Falcon Cheerleading Squad and John goes scavenging for useful wastepaper. Plus a behind the scenes look at Eurodisney in Paris and music from the Dream Warriors

10.45 Link. Peter White meets Jane Wallman, the woman who would like to be the first female Archbishop of Canterbury

11.00 Morning Worship. Heaven and Hell is the theme for the Rev Dr John Polkinghorne, master of Queens' College, Cambridge, when he talks about our destiny beyond the end of our lives. From the Chapel at Giggleswick School in Yorkshire

12.00 Encounter. It was 1858 when the Virgin Mary was said to have appeared to Bernadette at Lourdes, yet the town continues to attract crowds of pilgrims to this day. Why do they come?

12.30 LWT News Weekend

1.00 ITN News with Nicholas Owen. Weather

1.15 Peace In The Gulf with Brian Walden and Donald MacCormick

2.00 Charlie's Angels. The resourceful, all-women crime-fighting partnership leap into action once again. Starring Kate Jackson, Cheryl Ladd and Jacklyn Smith (r)

2.55 The Match. Elton Welsby introduces live coverage of a match of epic proportions as Liverpool clash with Arsenal at Anfield, an encounter that could decide the first division championship

5.05 Bullseye. Darts and general knowledge game

5.35 Athletics. Live coverage of the traditional meeting between Great Britain and the United States from Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. Leading British athletes taking part include sprinters John Regis and Linford Christie who, with Ade Mafe and Darren Braithwaite, will make an assault on the world indoor 4x200m relay record

7.05 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather 7.10 LWT News and weather

7.15 Trouble in Mind. Unpromising situation comedy in which Richard O'Sullivan and Susan Penhaligon star as a psychiatrist and his spirited wife. (Oracle)

7.45 Murder, She Wrote: According to Maggie. Angela Lansbury stars as the writer who seems to attract crimes as a lamp attracts insects. In this episode, one of Jessica's brightest students is a suspect in the murder of her boss. (Oracle)

8.40 News with Julia Somerville. Weather 8.55 LWT Weather

9.00 Agatha Christie's Poirot: The Affair at the Victory Ball. Haydn Gwynne (of *Nice Work* and *Drop the Dead Donkey*) plays an actress as Hercule Poirot (David Suchet) is called upon to solve a murder at a fancy dress party. With Hugh Fraser and Philip Jackson as the hapless stooges, Captain Hastings and Inspector Japp (Oracle)

10.00 Cool Head. Phil Cool cracks jokes and pulls faces

Life of a loner: Rudolf Nureyev with Melvyn Bragg (10.30pm)

10.30 The South Bank Show: Rudolf Nureyev.

● CHOICE: Chatting to Melvyn Bragg from one of his seven homes, this one on a remote Italian island, Nureyev confesses to being a loner. Bragg's introduction even compares him with Greta Garbo, although *The South Bank Show* has at least done with Nureyev what nobody managed with Garbo and lured him in front of the cameras. Patricia Foy's film respects Nureyev's desire to keep his private life his own and does not intrude upon it. This is a public portrait, composed mainly by Nureyev himself, with the help of performance clips and the memories of family and colleagues. From Foy's lucidly-constructed chronology two things emerge. One is Nureyev's enormous and apparently instinctive talent, which flourished despite the disapproval of his soldier father, who wanted him to be an engineer or a doctor. The other is a fiercely independent strain which has led to frequent brushes with authority and probably lay behind his momentous decision to defect to the West in 1961

12.00 Golf. Highlights from the Fujitsu Mediterranean open

1.00am The ITV Chart Show (r)

2.00 New Music. Magazine programme for rock fans

3.00 Pick of the Week. This week's regional television highlights

3.30 Indy Car Racing. Featuring the Marlboro GP at the Meadowlands

4.30 The Lawless Years. A New York policeman battles against the underworld of the Prohibition era

5.00 Wanted — Dead or Alive (b/w). Steve McQueen stars as maverick bounty hunter Josh Randall (r)

5.30 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Trans World Sport (r) 7.00 The Complete Skier

7.30 Dr Snuggles 8.00 The Bluffers 8.30 Bobobobs 9.00 Early Bird

9.25 Sangeet Anjali. Series focusing on Bengali music in its various traditions

10.00 A Week in Politics — Second Reading. Includes a look at John Major's reaction to the end of the Gulf war

10.45 Dennis 11.00 Boom! Magazine series for children (r) 11.30 Star Test for Inspiral Carpets's Clint Boon

12.00 The Waltons. Family saga of American country folk 1.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (b/w). Classic Sixties underwater sci-fi series

2.00 Film: You Can't Take It With You (1938, b/w). Frank Capra's comedy, which won Oscars for best picture and best director, is a little faded now but still delightfully entertaining. A family of cheery eccentrics headed by Lionel Barrymore do battle with a powerful tycoon (Edward Arnold) who is seeking to take possession of their home to further his property development scheme. With Jean Arthur, James Stewart and Samuel S. Hinds

4.20 Windy Day. Animation by John Hubley about children's fantasies

4.30 Citizen 2000: Sisters and Brothers. Series following the lives of 20 British children who will be 18 in the year 2000. They are now eight years old and able to pass comments on their brothers and sisters. (Teletext)

5.00 Scottish Eye: The Incapax Scandal. The current affairs series with a Scottish slant reports on the misappropriation of the benefits due to long-term mental patients by the hospitals which care for them

5.30 Kersplat! Actors Kerry Shale and Judy Pascoe continue their imaginative exploration of the world of comics. (Teletext)

5.45 Grim Tales. Rik Mayall narrates the story of *The Turnip*

6.00 Press Gang. Series about a group of children who run their own newspaper (r). (Oracle)

6.30 The Wonder Years. American comedy series about a suburban kid growing up in the Sixties and learning the lessons of life

7.00 Channel 4 News and weather

8.00 Orchestra! Dudley Moore and Sir Georg Solti conclude their painless guide to the components of the orchestra. Sir Georg rehearses and conducts a full performance of Richard Strauss's *Don Juan* with the Schleswig Holstein Youth Orchestra

8.30 The New Age. Kay Avila hosts a discussion between the 40 guests who have appeared in the series on what New Age philosophy can contribute to our society

Subject to royal copyright: footage of the coronation (9.00pm)

9.00 The Media Show: Royalty and Television.

● CHOICE: A punchy report on television's coverage of the royal family suggests that the influence of Richard Dimbleby dies hard. Nobody, except perhaps Sir Alastair Burnet, now adopts Dimbleby's obsequious style but "inside" views of the royals still have the blandness of a corporate video. *The Media Show* claims that royal manipulation of the small screen, by insisting on final approval of what can be shown, is Buckingham Palace's way of restoring images tarnished by the tabloid press. If television companies want to make royal documentaries they have to do so on royal terms. A curious aspect is that the palace retains copyright on royal footage. When Ludovic Kennedy wanted to include a clip from the coronation service in a tribute to Richard Dimbleby he was refused. *The Media Show* had no more success over a request to "quote" from a very innocuous 1969 documentary, *The Royal Family*

9.45 Film: Nightshift. (1982) A weary city analyst takes a job at a morgue hoping for a bit of peace and quiet. Instead his new colleague involves him in a scheme to set up a prostitution racket from their corpse repository base, and it is not long before organised crime feels threatened by their meddling. Amusing, engaging, and surprisingly fresh. Henry Winkler, Michael Keaton and Shelley Long are all excellent. Ron Howard directs with verve. (Oracle)

11.45 Mothers Behind Bars. When first shown, this documentary helped convince the British prison authorities to review their policies on child visiting in prison. It describes the ground-breaking work of an American Roman Catholic nun, Sister Elaine, in setting up a project which enables mothers behind bars to sustain relationships with their children rather than have the links severed (r). Ends at 12.45am

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming Diary 2.00 Members Only 2.25am-2.55 The World of Golf 12.05am The New Avengers 1.05 Soap 1.35 CinemAttractions 2.05 Harry O 3.30 Transmission 4.30-5.30 The Silk Road

BORDER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 2.00-2.55 McCloud 12.00 Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.00 Quiz Night 1.30 I Spy 2.25 Stand Up 2.55 Film: There Ain't No Justice 4.25 The ITV Chart Show 5.15-5.30 Jobfinder

CENTRAL

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 2.00-2.55 Charlie's Angels 12.05am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.05 Santa Barbara 2.00 Comics — The Ninth Art 2.30 The ITV Chart Show 3.25 Alfred Hitchcock Presents 3.55 Profile 4.05-5.30 Central Jobfinder

GRANADA

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Granada This Week 2.00-2.55 Richmond Hill 5.05-6.00 Coronation Street 12.05am Prisoner: cell Block H 1.00 Quiz Night 1.30 I Spy 2.25 Stand Up 2.55 Film: There Ain't No Justice 4.25 The ITV Chart Show 5.15-5.30 Jobs

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Clive's Walks 2.00 HTV Newsweek 2.30-2.55 Here Come the Double Deckers 12.05am Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.05 The ITV Chart Show 2.00 Festivals of the World 2.30 The US Pro Surfing Tour 3.30 The Hit Man and Her 5.20-5.30 Jobfinder

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 12.30pm-12.55 Jimmy's 2.00-2.30 Farming Wales

TSW

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Farming News 2.00 Fisheries News 2.15 Cartoon Time 2.25-2.55 Katts and Dog 5.05 Coronation Street 6.00-7.05 Athletics 12.05 In the Heat of the Night 1.00 Quiz Night 1.30 I Spy 2.25 Stand Up 2.55 Film: There Ain't No Justice! (Jimmy Hanley, Edward Rigby) 4.25 The ITV Chart Show 5.15-5.30 TSW Jobfinder

TVS

As London except: 12.30pm TVS News followed by Agenda 2.00-2.55 The Wonderful World of Disney 12.05am The Human Factor 12.35 The New Avengers 1.35 The ITV Chart Show 2.35 The Twilight Zone 3.00 Books by my Bedside (Brough Scott with Adrian Edmondson) 3.30 Pick of the Week 4.00 The Hit Man and Her 5.00-5.30 A Taste of the South

TYNE TEES

As London except: 12.25am-1.00 Breakthroughs 2.00 The Spectacular World of Guinness Records 2.25-2.55 The Back Page 5.05 Coronation Street 6.00-7.05 Athletics 12.05 Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.00 Quiz Night 1.30 I Spy 2.25 Stand Up 2.55 Film: There Ain't No Justice! 4.25 The ITV Chart Show 5.15-5.30 Jobfinder

ULSTER

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time 2.00-2.55 Short Story Theatre 5.05 Coronation Street 6.00-7.05 Athletics 12.05 Prisoner: Cell Block H 1.00 Quiz Night 1.30 I Spy 2.25 Stand Up 2.55 Film: There Ain't No Justice 4.25 The ITV Chart Show 5.20-5.30 Jobfinder

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.25pm Goals on Sunday 12.50-1.00 Calendar News 2.00-2.55 The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams 12.05am Scrumdown 1.05 Pick of the Week 1.35 The Twilight Zone 2.05 The ITV Chart Show 4.05 Some Call it Jazz 4.35-5.30 Jobfinder

S4C

Starts: 6.00am Early Morning 9.25 The Adventures of TinTin 9.30 Boom! 10.00 A Week in Politics 10.45 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea 11.45 Kersplat! 12.00 The Waltons 12.55 Acen 1.20 O Bedwar Ban 1.30 Bwrw Mlaen 2.00 Shark Callers of Kontu 3.00 Cutting Edge 4.00 Film: Pin-Up Girl 5.30 Sinfonietta 6.30 Grim Tales 6.45 Sen Steffan 7.00 Newyddion 7.10 Holi Hwn A Holiall 8.00 Hel Straeon 8.30 Dechrau Canu, Dechrau Canmol 9.00 Mwy Na Phapur Newydd 9.45 Ffilmiau 10.05 Small Stages 11.35 The Media Show 12.20 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 10.25am Topics in the History of Mathematics 10.50 Discovering Portuguese 11.15 Mass 12.00 France Actuelle 12.25 Russian Language and People 12.50 Marketplace 1.20 Little House on the Prairie 2.10 News followed by Booklines 2.45 Blind Sunday 3.35 Film: Running (Michael Douglas, Susan Anspach) 5.30 Exploring the Celtic Lands 6.00 Angelus 6.01 Six One Sunday 6.30 Scaoil Amach an Bobailín 7.00 The Cosby Show 7.25 School Round the Corner 8.00 Where in the World 8.30 Glenroe 9.00 News 9.20 Sandy 10.15 Ashes to Ashes 10.45 Stay Lucky 11.40 News 11.45 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 9.40am Sesame Street 10.40 The Chilly Kids 11.00 Ulysses 31 11.30 The Beatbox 1.30 Head to Toe 2.00 Festival: La Finta Giardiniera 4.30 The Golden Globe Awards 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 Fair City 7.55 News 8.00 Dennis O'Neill 8.55 Film: The Man from Laramie (James Stewart, Arthur Kennedy) 10.45 Sports Special 11.35 Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Bailey's Bird 6.30 Castaway 7.00 Fun Factory 11.00 Eight is Enough 12.00 The New Adventures of Wonder Woman 2.00pm WWF Superstars of Wrestling 3.00 The Man from Atlantis 4.00 The Love Boat 5.00 Small Wonder 5.30 Sky Star Search 6.30 The Simpsons 7.00 21 Jump Street 8.00 The Thorn Birds: The first of a four-part mini series 11.00 Falcon Crest 12.00 Entertainment Tonight 1.00am Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra satellite.
News on the hour.
5.00am Sunrise 9.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 Our World 1.30pm The Reporters 2.30 Our World 4.30 Those Were the Days 5.00 *Live at Five* 6.30 The Reporters 8.30 Our World 10.30 The Reporters 11.30 ABC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 NBC News 2.30 ABC News 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Those Were the Days

SKY NEWS

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
News on the hour.
5.00am Sunrise 9.30 Those Were the Days 11.30 *Our World* 1.30pm *Bach*: The Dolmetsch Years 4.30 Beauty Queens: Helena Rubenstein 5.30 Ballet: Torso 7.30 Orlando Furioso 10.30 Concert: Bruckner's Symphony Number 4 11.30 ABC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 NBC News 2.30 ABC News 3.30 CBS News 4.30 Those Were the Days

SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase, incl at 7.40 Entertainment Tonight
8.00 The Goodbye Girl (1979): A fading Broadway chorus girl and an aspiring actor are forced to share an apartment
10.00 Illegally Yours (1988): Rob Lowe stars as a juror on a case in which a girl he idolised at school is accused of murder
12.00 Gypsy Colt (1954): A faithful horse returns to his mistress after being sold by the girl's parents
2.00pm Not Just Another Affair (1982): Victoria Principal is a career girl looking for Mr Right who encounters womaniser Gil Gerard
4.00 The Jazz Singer (1980): Neil Diamond plays the son of a rabbi (Laurence Olivier), seeking pop stardom in Los Angeles
6.00 Big (1988): A young boy is thrust into the adult world when he wakes up in the guise of Tom Hanks
7.40 Projector
8.00 The Blue Iguana (1988): Spoof film noir about a bounty hunter who travels to Mexico to recover $20 million in contraband money
10.00 Red Scorpion (1989): Dolph Lundgren stars as a Russian agent who is sent to Africa to murder a rebel agent
11.45 Revenge of the Nerds (1984): Bullied into submission, the wimps of Adams College exact their revenge
1.15am He's My Girl (1987): Two teenage boys have the chance of a dream holiday in California. However, one of them must dress up as a girl
2.55 Hey Babel (1986): A 12-year-old girl runs away from home to pursue her dream of becoming a dancer. Starring Susan Clark
4.35 Critters (1986): Toothy aliens lay siege to an American farmhouse. Starring Dee Wallace Stone. Ends at 6.00

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Hour of Power 7.00 Fun Factory 9.00 Trans World Sport 10.00 Basketball — Men's European Cup 11.00 Sunday Alive: Superbouts: Lahti Ski Games; Mediterranean Open Golf; Sprint Speed Skating; Lahti Ski Games; Sprint Speed Skating 6.00pm Bobsleigh World Cup 6.30 Trial Bikes World Cup 7.30 Indoor Athletics 8.30 The Game of Billions 9.30 Lahti Ski Games 10.30 Volleyball —Nations Cup 11.30 Mediterranean Open Golf

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra Satellite.
7.00am Spanish Football Highlights 7.30 US PGA Nissan Los Angeles 9.30 Action Auto 10.00 Ice Hockey NHL 1991 12.00 Stop-USWA Wrestling 1.00pm Powersports International 2.00 Pro Box 4.00 ATP Volvo Tennis Indoor Men 6.00 Weekend Live Motorsport IMSA Camel GT 6.30 Weekend Live Athletics Indoor International 10.00 Weekend Live US PGA Doral Ryder Open 12.00 Ten Pin Bowling

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
12.00 Johnny Ringo 12.30pm The Bill Dana Show 1.00 The Joan Rivers Show 1.50 He Shoots! He Scores 2.45 Spain Spain International Cuisine 3.00 World Class Championship Wrestling 4.00 Rocky Jones 4.25 Afternoon Cinema: Red Stallion 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 Close 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
12.35pm The Great McGinty (1950): A spoof of American politics in which a tramp becomes state governor
2.00 The Mystery of the Million Dollar Hockey Puck: Two youngsters find themselves pitted against international diamond thieves
3.35 The Alamo (1987): John Wayne stars as a spirited defender of the legendary Mexican fortress
6.00 The Living Daylights (1987): Timothy Dalton's first outing as James Bond
8.10 Willow (1988): A dwarf and a swashbuckling adventurer team up to defeat an evil queen. Starring Val Kilmer
10.20 The Blue Lightning (1986): A San Francisco private eye travels to Australia in pursuit of a priceless jewel
11.55 Real Men (1987): A CIA agent and an insurance man team up to save the world. Starring James Belushi and John Ritter
1.25am Backstage (1987): A drama critic and a young American singer, once professional enemies, become more than just good friends. Ends at 3.00

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
10.30am Waterskiing 11.30 Test Match Cricket 12.30pm This is the Sports Channel 1.30 Sports Channel Special: Live Italian Football: Live Test Match Cricket; Live British Rugby League 8.15 Scottish Football 10.30 GW Talks To . . . Gary Lineker 11.00 This is the Sports Channel 12.00 Test Match Cricket 1.00am Scottish Football

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
6.00am Twenty hours of rock and pop

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only) 6.55 Weather

7.00 Morning Concert: Mendelssohn (Capriccio brillant in B minor: Philadelphia Orchestra, with Rudolf Serkin, piano); Elgar (Three Bavarian dances: Bournemouth Sinfonietta)

7.30 News

7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Sammartini (Oboe concerto in D: I Musici, with Heinz Holliger, oboe); Bach (Harpsichord concerto No 7 in G minor, BWV 1058: ECO); Haydn (Symphony No 102 in B flat: Royal Philharmonic Orchestra)

8.30 News

8.35 Music from the Dresden Court: Fifth of six programmes. Hasse (Tardi s'avvede d'un tradimento, La Clemenza di Tito: Berlin CO, with Jochen Kowalski, counter-tenor); Weiss (Sonata in A minor, L'Infidèle: Nigel North, lute); Buffardin (Flute Concerto in E minor: Musica Antiqua Cologne, with Wilbert Hazelzet, flute)

9.15 Isaac Stern and Friends: Isaac Stern, violin, performs Beethoven (Sonata in G, Op 96: with Eugene Istomin, piano); Brahms (Concerto in A minor, Op 102: with the NYPO under Bruno Walter; Leonard Rose, cello)

10.15 Music Weekly

11.00 From the Proms 1990: Cleveland Orchestra under von Dohnanyi, with Mitsuko Uchida, piano, performs Schoenberg (Piano Concerto); Bruckner (Symphony No 7), incl 11.20 Interval Reading

12.35pm Replay: In a broadcast from 1952, Bertrand Russell talks about D.H. Lawrence (r)

1.00 News

1.05 Your Concert Choice: Mozart (Concerto in C for flute and harp, K 299: CO of Lausanne, with Ursula Holliger, harp); Britten (Canticle II, Abraham and Isaac: James Bowman, counter-tenor, Robert Tear, tenor, Philip Ledger, piano); Purcell (Sonata for trumpet and strings, Z 850: City of London Baroque Sinfonia, with Crispian Steele-Perkins, trumpet); Koechlin (Sonata for horn, Op 70: Barry Tuckwell, horn, Daniel Blumenthal, piano); Hahn (Le Bal de Béatrice d'Este: New London Orchestra)

2.30 Chamber Music from Birmingham: Nicholas Daniel, oboe, Julius Drake, piano, perform J.C. Bach (Sonata in D, Op 16 No 1); Koechlin (Le Soir dans la campagne; Danses de faunes, Sonata, Op 58); Saint-Saëns (Oboe Sonata in D, Op 166); C.P.E. Bach (Sonata in B flat, Wq 161 No 2); de Severac, Ravel, Canteloube (Vocalises); Bozza (Oboe Sonata)

4.00 BBC PO under Edward Downes, with Peter Donohoe, piano, performs Debussy (Marche écossaise); Tchaikovsky (Piano Concerto No 2 in G); Dvořák (Symphonic Variations)

5.15 Opera News

6.00 A Contrite Heart: Nonsuch Consort of Voices and the Dowland Consort perform songs and poetry of penitence from early 17th century England

7.00 Serenade: The Grumiaux Trio performs Beethoven (Serenade in D, Op 8)

7.30 Critics' Choice: The Fool

● CHOICE: Edward Bond's stage play about John Clare, the peasant turned poet, has been adapted by the author and produced for radio by Penny Gold. Frustratingly for listeners, there is hardly a minute in the first half when we are not made to feel that, to get the full measure of Bond's powerful indictment of artistic and physical exploitation, we really ought to be seeing what is going on and not just *listening*. As the play becomes less visual, we are better able to judge the subtlety with which Gerard Murphy's Clare slides into madness

9.40 BBC Scottish SO under Jerzy Maksymiuk performs Lyell Cresswell (Speak for Us, Great Sea); Harper (Fantasia 5); Gilles Tremblay (Katadrone)

10.40 A Monighetti Recital: From Marlborough College, Ivan Monighetti, cello, Vladim Sakharov, piano, perform Webern (Sonata); Beethoven (Variations on Bei Männern, welche Liebe fühlen); Webern (Three Pieces, Op 11); Schubert (Sonata in A minor, D 821, Arpeggione); Schumann (Adagio and Allegro in A flat, Op 70); Shostakovich (Sonata in D minor, Op 40) 12.00 News

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Prelude (s) 6.30 News; Morning Has Broken (s) 6.55 Weather

7.00 News 7.10 Sunday Papers 7.15am On Your Farm 7.40 Sunday, incl 7.55 Weather

8.00 News 8.10 Sunday Papers 8.50 Sir John Hackett talks about the welfare needs of airborne soldiers past and present 8.55 Weather

9.00 News

9.10 Sunday Papers

9.15 Letter from America (r)

9.30 Morning Service from St Margaret's Church, Westminster (s)

10.15 The Archers: Omnibus edition

11.15 News Stand, with Peter Fiddick

11.30 Pick of the Week (s) (r)

12.15pm Desert Island Discs: Sue Lawley's castaway is Sir Denis Forman, the former chairman of Granada TV and deputy chairman of the Royal Opera House (s) 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World This Weekend 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 Gardeners' Question Time: A postbag edition

2.30 Talking Heads: Her Big Chance. In the fourth of six monologues by Alan Bennett, Julie Walters plays a small-time actress on the brink of success (s)

3.05 Stamping Feet: A visit to a flamenco dancing class in London (s) (r)

3.30 The Radio Programme, with Laurie Taylor (s)

4.00 News: Analysis (r)

4.47 Time for Verse: Carol Ann Duffy talks to Benjamin Zephaniah, who reads a selection of his poetry (s)

5.00 News: Down Your Way: Christina Hardyment visits Maldon in Essex, a favourite haunt of Arthur Ransome

5.40 Dragons of a Feather (new series): Four programmes in which Roger Worsley explores myths and legends about commonplace birds (r) 5.50 Shipping 5.55 Weather

6.00 News

6.15 The Professionals: The Housewife. A series of views of different occupations (s) (r)

6.30 Europhile (new series) (r)

7.00 Ecuador Days

● CHOICE: At about the same time (1963) that four youngsters from Merseyside were having problems getting people to stop spelling their name like the insect, four young working lads from Barnsley, who exotically called themselves the Ecuadors, were trying to get pub MCs to stop announcing them as the Eekwayders, which made no sense to anybody. The Beatles spectacularly surmounted their obstacle, but the Ecuadors' success was much more modest, even though they lovingly polished their guitars like sacred objects, unlike some pop groups who smashed them up as part of the act. Now, 25 years later, the former Ecuadors reminisce about their flash of glory (s)

7.30 Bookshelf (r)

8.00 The Radio 4 Debates: The Soviet Debate. The last in the series comes from the Royal Institute of International Affairs at Chatham House, London. Brian Redhead chairs the proposition that: "The time has come for the West to stop supporting President Gorbachev"

9.00 Enquire Within, with Dilly Barlow (r)

9.15 The Natural History Programme: Fergus Keeling and Jessica Holm investigate whether American mink pose a threat to Britain's indigenous animals (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 News

10.15 J. Arthur Rank Presents: The story of the Methodist millionaire who funded the British film industry through its golden years (s) (r)

11.00 In Committee: Tim Fenton presents the work of Parliament's select committees

11.30 Seeds of Faith: Ruth and Naomi. The composer Francis Grier reflects on the third of seven stories of women in the Bible (s)

12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping Forecast

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; Melody FM 104.9.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Jenny Costello 7.00 The Bruno and Liz Breakfast Show 9.30 Dave Lee Travis 12.30pm Pick of the Pops: The Top 20 charts of 1967, 1973 and 1987 2.30 Philip Schofield 4.30 The Complete UK Top 40 7.00 Anne Nightingale's Request Show 9.00 Andy Kershaw 11.00-2.00am John Peel

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am David Allan 6.00 Graham Knight 7.30 Don Maclean says Good Morning Sunday 9.05 Richard Baker with Melodies for You 11.00 Desmond Carrington: Radio 2 All-Time Greats 2.00pm Benny Green 3.00 Alan Dell with Sounds Easy 4.00 Palm Court Time 4.30 You Can Sing the Next Song (r) 5.00 Charlie Chester 7.00 John Lawrenson 8.00 London Winds 8.30 Sunday Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith with Your Hundred Best Tunes 10.00 Radio 2 Arts Programme 12.05am Personal Choice: Denis Healey 1.00 Len Jackson with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service: Newsdesk 6.30 Meridian Reports 7.00 News and 24 Hours 7.30 Sunday Edition, incl 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News; Sport 9.00 Sport 9.02 This Family Business, incl 10.00 Sport 10.30 Education Matters (r) 11.00 Sport 11.02 A Century Remembered. Entertaining the Age. The third of a five-part archive portrait of the decade 1900-1910 11.30 The Price of Greens (r) 12.00 Sport 12.03pm Open University: Open Forum 12.22 Mathematics — Binomials and Trigonometry 12.41 Information Technology 1.00 Sport 1.03 Literature — Sweeney Agonistes 1.22 Language and the Novel 1.41 Poetry — The Radical 1790s 2.00 Sport 2.02 As Radio 2 3.00 Sunday Sport Extra: *Barclays League*. Liverpool v Arsenal 5.02 As Radio 4 6.00 Sports Round-Up 6.10 Bob Hatton Rattle 6.40 Fanshawe on Five (r) 7.20 Open University: The Hydrogen Bomb Controversy 7.40 Creative Management 8.00 New Curiosity Shop — Neutron Stars 8.20 Arts Review '91 8.40 18th-Century Poverty and Crime 9.00 Nightbeat 9.30 Across the Line, incl 10.00 Sport 11.00 Sport 11.05 World Service. World Report 11.20 Jews of Eastern Europe 11.50 They Made Our World 12.00-12.05am Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am German Features 5.35 News in German, Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.58 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 7.00 News 7.15 24 Hours 8.00 News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Music for a While 9.00 News 9.15 Backing the Canvas: The Restorer 9.30 Financial Review 9.40 Book Choice 9.45 Society Today 10.00 News 10.15 Science in Action 10.30 In Praise of God 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Midi Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 News 12.05pm Play of the Week: Where the Lovemaking Does Go On 1.00 News 1.15 24 Hours 2.00 News 2.15 Sports Roundup 2.30 Anything Goes 3.00 News 3.15 International Recital 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 News and Features in German 4.59 Travel News 5.00 News 5.15 Club 648 5.30 Londres Soir 6.15 BBC English 6.30 News and Features in German 7.54 News in German 8.00 News 8.09 Personal View 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Ned Sherrin's Counterpoint 9.00 News 9.15 Into the Dangerous World 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newshour 11.00 News 11.09 Book Choice 11.15 Music for a While 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am In Praise of God 1.00 News 1.15 Manna to Microwave 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Composer of the Month: Mahler 3.00 World News 3.15 Good Books 3.30 Anything Goes 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Letter from America 4.45 News and Press Review in German

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Wandsworth cuts England's lowest poll tax by £12

By Douglas Broom, local government correspondent

WANDSWORTH council, the flagship of Conservative local government, yesterday cut £12 from what was already the lowest poll tax in England.

At £136 a head from April the community charge in the south London borough will be the lowest in England and Wales, £38 below its government target and £40 less than the figure set last week by Westminster.

As the Wandsworth tax was being announced it was disclosed that the ruling Labour group in neighbouring Lambeth was considering a poll tax of almost £800, which would be a £280 increase. A survey by the *Municipal Journal*, however, found that more than half of the 112 shire district councils that have set their poll tax were below the government target of £381.

Labour and trade union leaders accused Wandsworth of financing the reduction in the poll tax by closing day nurseries, primary schools, and facilities for the elderly, and by ending grants to voluntary groups and plundering its reserves.

Maurice Heaster, chairman of Wandsworth's policy and finance committee, rejected the allegations, saying that the council was providing high-quality services at a reasonable cost. Day nurseries were being closed because the council was providing free nursery education for all children in the borough aged three and four. Spending on voluntary bodies, at £11 million, was the second highest in London.

Mr Heaster said that the £136 had been made possible through increased efficiency and prudent planning. "Most councils leave thinking about their charge until the last minute. We plan ahead."

Figures released by the council show that the poll tax will finance only 12 per cent of Wandsworth's £243 million budget this year. Nationally, the community charge provides a third of local authority income. The full cost of services has been cushioned by £22 million saved by trimming budgets in the present year and by the use of £7.5 million in reserves.

Wandsworth will also receive £24 million from the government under the safety-net scheme to cushion the transition from rates to poll tax, and £10 million to cover the cost of taking over schools from the defunct Inner London Education Authority.

Sir Paul Beresford, the council leader, angrily rejected suggestions that Wandsworth had been cutting services. "How can it be called a cut when we have increased the nursery services we are providing while making a saving of £1 million. It is a saving, not a cut."

Tony Belton, leader of the Labour opposition, said: "What is so terrible is that most of these cuts could have been avoided without going above the Westminster poll tax figure. All the cuts to voluntary groups, which include all the law centres in the borough, would have been avoided just by keeping the poll tax at £148. We are not saying the council is not efficient, but they have gone over the top."

He said that the cuts to day nurseries were particularly damaging. Instead of year-round day care, single parents would be able to send their children to morning nursery classes only. "For the rest of the day and the holidays there will be nothing."

Shonagh Methven, of Wandsworth Trades Council, said: "The poorest people in the borough will pay the price of this rivalry over setting the lowest poll tax."

Next year's levels, page 2

'I cried at sight of blazing wells'

Continued from page 1

several months." He emphasised that he was not criticising allied tactics and accepted that there may have been other considerations that determined how the war had been fought.

Not all the wells blasted by the Iraqis were burning, he said. In some cases they had simply been damaged and were spouting oil which had not ignited.

The fact that the wells appear to have been blown up will make repair more difficult. Red Adair and other oil industry firemen were hoping that that Iraqis had simply turned on valves rather than destroy the wellheads. Company officials said that Kuwait has about 16 days' supply of oil left in storage tanks for domestic use.

Meanwhile the Kuwaiti resistance gave away the free oil at petrol stations with priority given to policemen, soldiers, ambulance drivers and Kuwaiti resistance members. Private citizens were allowed to put 40 litres of petrol in their cars. Awad Ali al-Abrahim, aged 25, a communications ministry employee and organiser of the handout, said the fuel was coming from the station's reservoirs and Kuwaiti and Saudi tankers.

Hundreds of cars and trucks queued down a main road leading into Kuwait City waiting for their turn at the pumps.

JOHN MANNING

On parade: Joanne O'Driscoll from Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, presenting Lance-Sergeant Haydon Pritchard of the Welsh Guards with a leek to mark St David's Day

Major visit will test Moscow assurances

By Robin Oakley, political editor

JOHN Major, as the first Western leader to visit President Gorbachev in Moscow since the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe summit in November, will next week seek to test assurances that the Soviet leader has been relaying to the West. In effect, those assurances say: "Stick with me. For the moment, I have to deal with the hard men of the military and the KGB, but I am still at heart the reformer you learned to love."

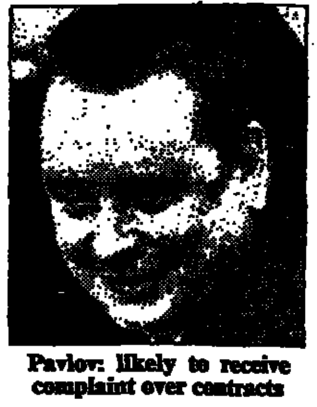
Although anxious to establish a good personal relationship with another world leader after his breakthroughs with President Bush and Chancellor Kohl, Mr Major will make a hard-headed appraisal of the Soviet leadership and its internal crisis management.

Without seeking to dabble in internal politics, Mr Major will say that the treatment of the Baltic states this winter amounted to an abnegation of the Paris Charter, and he will indicate Britain's concern over Soviet wriggling around the terms of the CFE agreement on forces reductions. Mr Major will insist that EC economic aid and, more particularly, foreign investment will resume in strength only after hard evidence of the Soviet Union continuing its reform programme and moving towards a market economy.

The key discussions in Mr Major's meeting on Tuesday with Mr Gorbachev will, however, concern the aftermath of the Gulf War. Acknowledging the long Soviet involvement in the area, Britain sees Mr Gorbachev's access to Baghdad as complementary to British and American interests and access. Initially, Mr Major hopes to use it to hasten action on repatriation of British PoWs and of Kuwaiti hostages. However, he will also discuss with Mr Gorbachev the Soviet Union's role as a main arms supplier in the region, assuming that there remains a market for its military hardware after the poor showing of the Iraqi war machine.

There was some allied resentment of Moscow's readiness to water down UN Security Council resolutions in the search for a ceasefire before the land war began. Some saw it as a cynical attempt to maximise political influence in the region. Soviet officials, however, are said to be sorry to have received little appreciation for efforts to prevent war deaths.

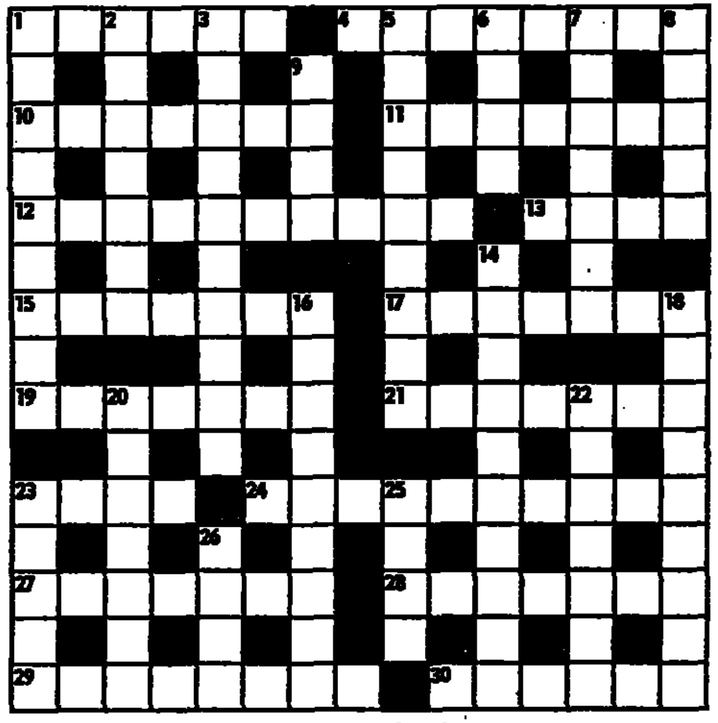
In fact, Mr Major, last Saturday, and President Bush, in his telephone conversations with Mr Gorbachev, both expressed appreciation of Soviet humanitarian motives, and both appreciate Moscow's special position as a regional power with a Muslim population of its own. The Western leaders knew that there was a tug-of-war between those in the Soviet leadership who wanted to maintain solidarity with the West in the UN and military interests anxious to maintain muscle in the Middle East. The test for Mr Major, Foreign Office sources acknowledge, will be in assessing who is winning that tug-of-war and in trying to keep the Soviet Union involved in the Security Council consensus.



Pavlov: likely to receive complaint over contracts

A meeting with Valentin Pavlov, the prime minister, is expected to concentrate on the Soviet economy. Mr Major is expected to raise complaints about late payment of British firms for Soviet contracts.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,543



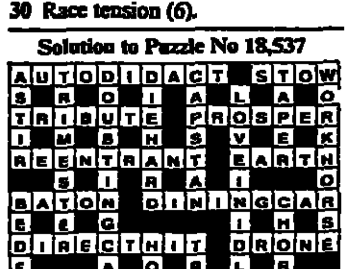
ACROSS

- 1 One who is awkward in making a cake (6).
- 4 Tiny house in street spoilt his description of a Lothian town (8).
- 10 Knock down in review (3,4).
- 11 Vengeance of Head, having caught me without one (7).
- 12 Aircraft taking old church member into saintly place in Jersey (10).
- 13 American lawyers' artistic movement (4).
- 15 A Republican objection to American growth? (7).
- 17 Growl angrily, riding into a traffic jam (5-2).
- 19 Course for a devout commander in the volunteer force (7).
- 21 Loud-mouth's returns would give trouble to fishermen? (7).
- 23 Fruit carried on a sailing-ship (4).
- 24 Raillery can make one colour in school (10).
- 27 Representation of Indian city in dull setting (7).
- 28 Girl delivered to a southern state (7).
- 29 Helping to vandalize a big tent (8).
- 30 Race tension (6).

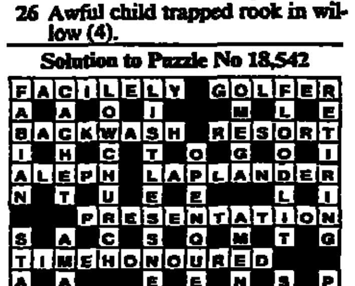
DOWN

- 1 Mischievous page in 23*ac* introduces part of parade (5,4).
- 2 Devotees of big star — cool one in a suit (3,4).
- 3 The appeal of voguish employment (10).
- 5 Agreement to swindle the count, say (9).
- 6 Order to replace centre of the book (4).
- 7 Establish where a horse is kept (7).
- 8 Prophet's little house at the coast? (5).
- 9 Whipstock which may be rotated (4).
- 14 Sea coming over the prom in the harbour area (10).
- 16 Wise politician to speak on southern isle (9).
- 18 Strange core in unpatterned earthenware (9).
- 20 Short extract from a ship's voyage (7).
- 22 A 30, maybe, on the Russian throne (7).
- 23 State support set up for communication channels (5).
- 25 Peter is free from danger (4).
- 26 Awful child trapped rook in willow (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,537



Solution to Puzzle No 18,542



PARKER DUOFOLD

A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address..

Concise crossword, page 15

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: W G S Whitford, Arterial Avenue, Rainham, Essex; J M Cayton, Grooms Lodge, Stapleton, Shrewsbury; R W French, Gladstone Place, Brighton; E Brennan, Roundhey, Heald Green, Stockport; J E Drinkwater, Fir Tree Road, Epsom Downs, Surrey.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

GOURDE
a. A musical rattle
b. A unit of currency
c. A horse disease

PUNDONOR
a. Point of honour
b. An involuntary punster
c. A secret beneficiary

CUSTREL
a. A type of hawk
b. Attendant on a knight
c. A marzipan drink

NUMERATI
a. Financial whizzkids
b. Roman senators
c. Householders

Answers on page 15

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T.	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roundworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

TODAY
London 5.42 pm to 6.43 am
Bristol 5.52 pm to 6.52 am
Edinburgh 5.48 pm to 7.01 am
Manchester 5.46 pm to 6.54 am
Penzance 6.05 pm to 7.03 am

WEATHER

Eastern England and eastern Scotland will have a bright morning before rain. Wales and western England should be cloudy with rain, and hill snow. Brighter, showery weather should affect south-west England and Wales this afternoon. Western Scotland will be windy, with rain. Northern Ireland should brighten up after a wet start. Outlook: sun and showers tomorrow; cloud and rain on Monday.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	13	55	r	Malaga	15	59	c
Akrotiri	15	59	c	Malta	16	61	s
Alex'dria	20	68	s	Melb'rne	17	63	c
Algiers	15	59	c	Mexico C*	25	77	s
Amst'dm	5	41	s	Miami*	22	72	c
Athens	16	61	s	Milan	7	45	c
Barbads*	28	82	s	Montreal*	-4	25	s
Barcelna	11	52	r	Moscow	-5	23	s
Belgrade	7	45	f	Munich	1	34	c
Berlin	5	41	s	Nairobi	30	86	f
Bermuda*	19	66	f	Naples	14	57	c
Biarritz	11	52	r	N Delhi	22	72	s
Borde'x	12	54	c	N York*	7	45	f
Brussels	4	39	fg	Nice	14	57	c
Budapst	3	37	c	Oslo	-1	30	sn
B Aires*	20	68	r	Paris	6	43	r
Cairo	21	70	f	Peking	8	46	s
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Perth	37	99	s
C'blanca	15	59	c	Prague	2	36	c
Chicago*	6	43	f	Reykjavik	-3	27	f
Ch'church	16	61	s	Rhodes	14	57	f
Cologne	7	45	f	Rio de J	30	86	s
C'phagn	2	36	c	Rome	13	55	r
Corfu	12	54	c	Salzburg	6	43	s
Dublin	5	41	s	S Paulo*	29	84	c
Dubrovnik	12	54	f	Seoul	4	39	s
Florence	16	61	f	Sing'por	30	86	f
Frankfurt	6	43	s	St'kholm	0	32	c
Geneva	9	48	c	Strasb'rg	6	43	s
Gibraltar	15	59	c	Sydney	22	72	r
Helsinki	-2	28	f	Tangier	15	59	c
Hong K	23	73	c	Tel Aviv	17	63	s
Innsbrck	14	57	s	Tenerife	21	70	f
Istanbul	8	46	f	Tokyo	5	41	r
Jo'burg*	28	82	f	Toronto*	-2	28	sn
Karachi	30	86	s	Tunis	17	63	r
L Palmas	21	70	c	Valencia	16	61	f
Le Tquet	9	48	f	Vanc'ver*	8	46	c

* denotes figures are latest available

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.505	2.355
Austria Sch	21.50	20.10
Belgium Fr	62.90	58.90
Canada $	2.30	2.15
Denmark Kr	11.71	11.01
Finland Mkk	7.42	6.97
France Fr	10.35	9.70
Germany Dm	3.05	2.85
Greece Dr	327.00	307.00
Hong Kong $	15.35	14.35
Ireland Pt	1.145	1.075
Italy Lira	2280	2140
Japan Yen	271.00	254.00
Netherlands Gld	3.43	3.22
Norway Kr	11.91	11.21
Portugal Esc	266.00	250.00
South Africa Rd	5.60	5.00
Spain Pta	189.00	176.00
Sweden Kr	11.33	10.65
Switzerland Fr	2.635	2.465
Turkey Lira	7000	6000
USA $	1.99	1.87
Yugoslavia Dnr	35.00	27.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Anglesey	6.7	.04	8	46	sunny
Aviemore	-	.19	3	37	sleet
Belfast	6.3	-	8	46	fog
Birmingham	2.7	.04	8	46	bright
Bournemouth	1.8	-	7	45	bright
Brighton	4.7	.28	8	46	sunny
Bristol	5.3	-	10	50	sunny
Cardiff	4.6	-	8	46	fog
Edinburgh	-	.31	3	37	rain
Eskdalemuir	-	.19	4	39	sleet
Falmouth	3.5	-	9	48	sunny
Glasgow	0.9	.08	7	45	cloudy
Hunstanton	1.8	.37	6	43	cloudy
Jersey	4.2	-	10	50	bright
Leeds	0.4	.44	9	48	rain
Lowestoft	-	.08	6	43	cloudy
Manchester	0.7	.20	7	45	shower
Morecambe	2.0	.10	7	45	cloudy
Nottingham	1.3	.34	7	45	bright
Plymouth	7.8	-	9	48	sunny
Scarborough	-	1.06	3	37	bright
Shanklin	8.7	.04	7	45	sunny
Southend	-	.09	7	45	cloudy
St. Ives	5.8	-	9	48	sunny
Teignmouth	8.5	-	9	48	sunny
Tenby	6.9	-	8	46	sunny
Torquay	7.1	-	9	48	sunny
Weymouth	7.4	-	8	46	sunny
Worthing	6.1	.24	7	45	sunny

These are Thursday's figures.

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.43	7.3	3.10	7.4
Aberdeen	2.11	4.2	2.15	4.5
Avonmouth	8.13	13.9	8.36	13.8
Belfast			18.03	3.8
Cardiff	7.58	12.8	8.21	12.7
Devonport	6.53	5.8	7.15	5.5
Dover			12.04	6.8
Falmouth	6.23	5.6	6.45	5.3
Glasgow	1.44	4.7	1.43	5.2
Harwich	12.34	4.0	12.59	4.0
Holyhead	11.12	5.9	11.34	5.6
Hull	7.16	7.5	7.20	8.1
Ilfracombe	6.59	9.6	7.19	9.4
King's Lynn	7.34	6.7	7.34	7.1
Leith	3.26	5.7	3.44	5.8

Tide measured in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, and Chivenor, Devon, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Aberdeen, Grampian, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Aberdeen, Grampian, 1.55 in; highest sunshine: Ventnor, Isle of Wight, 9.1 hr.

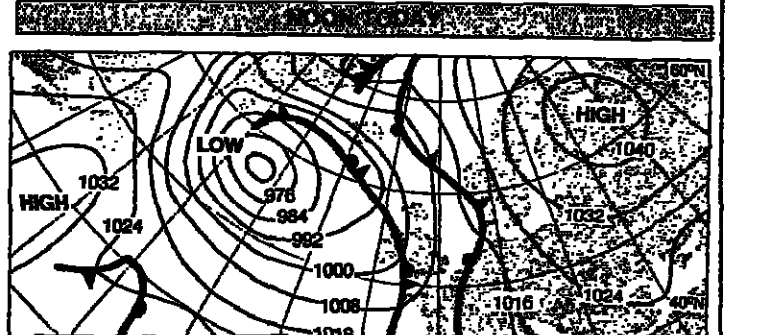
MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 8C (46F); min 6pm to 6am, 2C (36F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 3.8 hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 8C (46F); min 6pm to 6am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 8.7 hr.

NOON TODAY

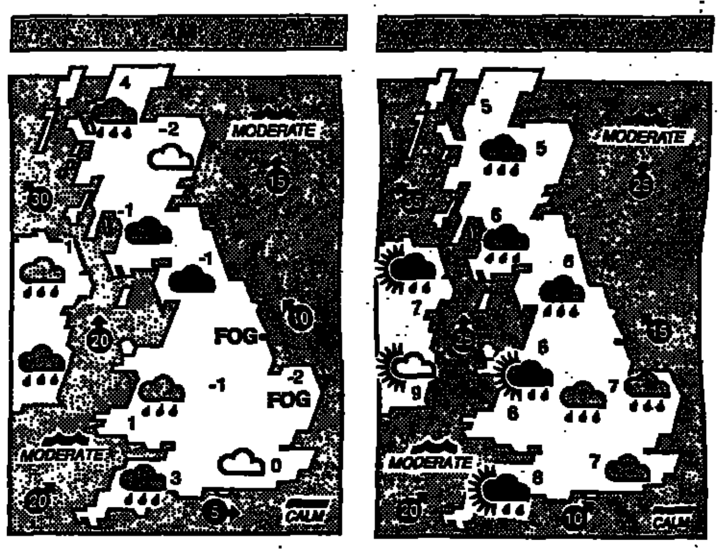


TODAY

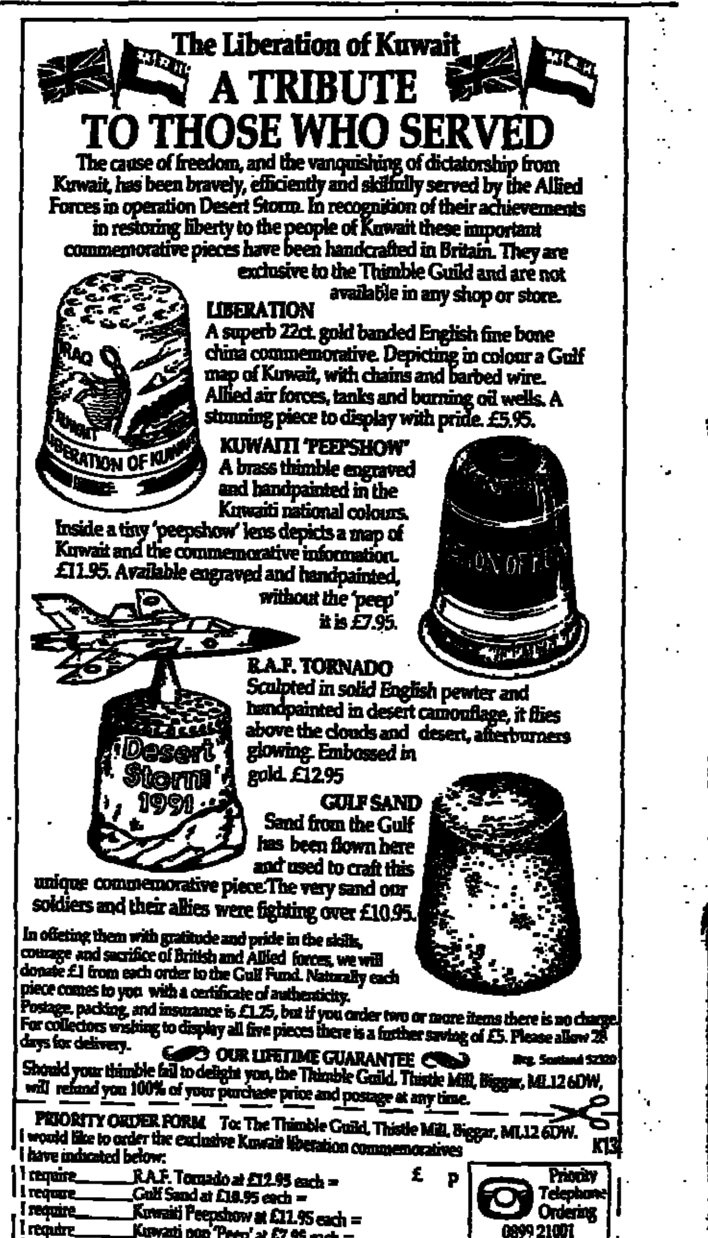
Sun rises: 6.45 am
Sun sets: 5.42 pm
Moon sets: 6.54 am
Moon rises: 8.21 pm

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 6.43 am
Sun sets: 5.44 pm
Moon sets: 7.09 am
Moon rises: 9.38 pm



Information supplied by Met Office



The Liberation of Kuwait
A TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED

The cause of freedom, and the vanquishing of dictatorship from Kuwait, has been bravely, efficiently and skilfully served by the Allied Forces in operation Desert Storm. In recognition of their achievements in restoring liberty to the people of Kuwait these important commemorative pieces have been handcrafted in Britain. They are exclusive to the Thimble Guild and are not available in any shop or store.

LIBERATION
A superb 22ct. gold banded English fine bone china commemorative. Depicting in colour a Gulf map of Kuwait, with chains and barbed wire. Allied air forces, tanks and burning oil wells. A stunning piece to display with pride. £5.95.

KUWAITI 'PEEPSHOW'
A brass thimble engraved and handpainted in the Kuwaiti national colours. Inside a tiny 'peepshow' lens depicts a map of Kuwait and the commemorative information. £11.95. Available engraved and handpainted, without the 'peep' it is £7.95.

R.A.F. TORNADO
Sculpted in solid English pewter and handpainted in desert camouflage, it flies above the clouds and desert, afterburners glowing. Embossed in gold. £12.95

GULF SAND
Sand from the Gulf has been flown here and used to craft this unique commemorative piece. The very sand our soldiers and their allies were fighting over £10.95.

In offering them with gratitude and pride in the skills, courage and sacrifice of British and Allied forces, we will donate £1 from each order to the Gulf Fund. Naturally each piece comes to you with a certificate of authenticity.
Postage, packing, and insurance is £1.25, but if you order two or more items there is no charge. For collectors wishing to display all five pieces there is a further saving of £5. Please allow 28 days for delivery.

OUR LIFETIME GUARANTEE Reg. Scotland 52320
Should your thimble fail to delight you, the Thimble Guild, Thistle Mill, Biggar, ML12 6DW, will refund you 100% of your purchase price and postage at any time.

PRIORITY ORDER FORM To: The Thimble Guild, Thistle Mill, Biggar, ML12 6DW. K13
I would like to order the exclusive Kuwait liberation commemoratives I have indicated below: £ p
I require______R.A.F. Tornado at £12.95 each =
I require______Gulf Sand at £10.95 each =
I require______Kuwaiti Peepshow at £11.95 each =
I require______Kuwaiti non 'Peep' at £7.95 each =
I require______Liberation at £5.95 each =
I require all five pieces at just £44.95 (Saving me £5.)
P. & P. and insurance (delete if 2 or more items) £1.25 ____
Total £____

Priority Telephone Ordering 0899 21001 (24 hours) for Credit Card Holders.

I enclose my remittance (cheque or P.O.) or alternatively, please debit my Access/Visa card no.________ Expiry Date______
SIGNATURE________
NAME (MR/MRS/MISS)________
(Block Capitals please)
ADDRESS________
________ Post Code______

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THE TIMES
BUSINESS
THE TIMES SATURDAY MARCH 2 1991
Business Editor
John Bell

- BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-29
- WEEKEND MONEY 31-36
- SPORT 37-42

WEEKEND MONEY

Sterling shows his mettle

LORD Sterling of Plaistow, who was ennobled in Margaret Thatcher's resignation honours list, gained the admiration of the City for the way he handled the rescue of Town and City in the Seventies.

Now chairman of P&O, Lord Sterling has walked the corridors of power as a special adviser to the trade department.

But as he recounted to Carol Leonard, he owes everything to his dead father, who struggled his way out of a sweatshop in the East End of London .... Page 27

Budget target

Offshore trusts are widely expected to be a target in the next Budget. Accountants are advising clients that a loophole allowing Britons to emigrate and dispose of assets without capital gains tax is likely to be closed......... Page 30

Mortgage cut

National Westminster Bank is to cut its mortgage rate from 14.5 to 13.75 per cent from Monday for new borrowers and from April 1 for existing customers. Barclays and Abbey National and major building societies have already announced reductions .... Page 31

Credit ruling

Credit applicants who have been turned down unfairly because of where they live could be reassessed after a new ruling.................. Page 30

Sales leads

If the draft Banking Code is approved, banks will be able to search through customers' accounts for sales leads .... Page 31

BES blows

Business expansion schemes (BES) are trying to recover from the double blow resulting from the demise of Chancery, a major sponsor, and Imro's concern over the claim that BES investments are "guaranteed" ...... Page 32

Your views

Banks have grown too impersonal, with bank managers locking themselves away behind steel doors, complains one Weekend Money reader. Another tells of an Alliance & Leicester branch that was too busy to deal with heaps of change from children .... Page 34

Trading nerves

The euphoria that accompanied the end of war in the Gulf on Thursday evaporated on the International Stock Exchange yesterday. Share prices traded nervously, with the FT-SE 100 index ending at 2,386.9, 6.0 points up. Stock market, page 29

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Rebuilding Kuwait

"A remarkable British unity over rebuilding Kuwait has emerged in the last fortnight. Alarmed by initial reports that Britain was losing out to the Americans, UK plc has been transformed from a nebulous theory into a practical reality."

Business — The Sunday Times tomorrow.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Revlon sale rumours emerge from the powder room

From Philip Robinson in New York

LEADING cosmetics and chemicals groups including Anglo Dutch Unilever, Proctor & Gamble of America, and L'Oreal of France, the world's largest cosmetics company, are in the market for Revlon, America's second largest cosmetics group. Revelon was bought by Ronald Perelman in an acrimonious $2 billion takeover in the Eighties and taken private in 1987.

The eventual purchase price could reach more than $4 billion. But Mr Perelman is under pressure. Analysts say Revlon's cashflow is insufficient to cover $2 billion of repayments to banks due in the next three years. More pressing is the price of the junk bonds that helped finance the deal. They have fallen to half of their face value recently, reflecting fears of a debt restructuring. One industry executive says the sale talks are tentative, and could last two to four weeks. Mr Perelman is believed to be in London.

A combined Unilever and Revlon would make Unilever the leader in American women's fragrances and give the combined group enough sales to challenge L'Oreal for dominance of the cosmetics markets.

Unilever made it clear with its figures this week that it needs American acquisitions to redress the 20 per cent fall in North American contributions to group profits.

The company also faces serious competition problems establishing new brand names in America. Unilever has spent more than $5 billion over the past five years on American acquisitions, its latest being Elizabeth Taylor's Passion, Elizabeth Arden, Fabergé and Calvin Klein. Revlon's leading brands include Charlie, the women's fragrance, Flex shampoo, and Max Factor cosmetics.

Wall Street wiped more than $120 million from Unilever's market value as news of the talks emerged yesterday. The shares fell 75 cents to $53.5 valuing it at almost $9 billion. However, industry sources say the front-runners remain L'Oreal and P & G, America's largest health products group, selling Oil of Ulay and Cover Girl makeup. P & G is looking towards beauty care products to spur growth among its products dominated by the mature product lines of cleaners and detergents. It recently bought Old Spice, the aftershave.

Industry executives say Revlon has been up for sale for more than two months, but James Conroy, special counsel and vice-president for corporate communications said: "As far as we are concerned we are offering no comment on this story. I believe Mr Perelman is travelling."

☐ The Revlon sale is the latest in a spate of deals which has seen the $40 billion worldwide cosmetics and toiletries business concentrate in the hands of a few powerful players (Gillian Bowditch writes).

L'Oreal, which owns the Lancôme, Paloma Picasso, Ralph Lauren, Guy Laroche and Vichy blands has been slogging it out for the world No. 1 slot with Unilever which owns Rimmel, Timotei, Sunsilk, Elizabeth Taylor's Passion and Brüt.

Cosmetics are becoming bigger and bigger business and with a population of mature women prepared to pay upwards of £40 for a jar of the new and controversial generation of "anti-ageing" creams, there is no sign of a slowdown in the industry's growth.

In the past five years a number of the top businesses have changed hands, commanding increasingly high premiums. Any top brand business such as Revlon now has a rarity premium as the world class players fight to gain market share. In July 1989, Unilever bought Elizabeth Arden whose brands include Chlöe, Fendi and Lagerfeld, and Fabergé for £957 million only two weeks after adding Calvin Klein to its stable for £200 million. Unilever bought Rimmel in 1988 for £78 million.

Yardley and Lenthéric, originally part of Beechams, was sold to Wasserstein Perella, the American buyout specialist, for £110 million. L'Oreal bought Helena Rubinstein in 1988. Proctor & Gamble catapulted its business into the top league with the acquisition of Richardson-Vicks, which gave it Oil of Ulay, in 1985. Unilever retaliated with the acquistion of Chesebrough-Pond's a year later.

Abbey rises to £582m despite debt provisions

By Neil Bennett, banking correspondent

ABBEY National, the savings and mortgage bank, increased pre-tax profits 16 per cent to £582 million last year, despite a rise in bad debt provisions.

The bank revealed that it had repossessed 5,800 homes last year, and still owns more than 5,000 houses, while 39,000 of its borrowers, 3 per cent of the total, are now more than three months in arrears because of high interest rates.

Sir Campbell Adamson, the chairman, gave warning that the level of repossessions had not yet peaked. The costs of the repossessions forced the bank to provide £55 million against bad debts, up 293 per cent from last year.

Abbey National has 3.7 million shareholders after its 1989 flotation and is the most widely owned company in Europe. The company is paying a final dividend of 6.35p, up 11 per cent, to make 9.5p for the year. Sir Campbell said the bank remained committed to increasing the dividend faster than inflation.

He attributed the results to the policy of concentrating on traditional mortgage and savings business and modest expansion. He said: "I have said that only the fittest would survive in the world of personal financial services. Abbey National has not only survived but has prospered."

Abbey's shares have risen strongly since the flotation and closed yesterday at 257p, 127p higher than the issue price. Sir Campbell said the rise was gratifying and showed that the market knew that Abbey's coats were low and its balance sheet was clean. "The share price today more than justifies our shareholders' confidence in us," he said.

Pre-tax profits were £81 million higher than in 1989. The increase would have been only £28 million if Abbey had possessed the cash raised from the flotation for the whole of 1989.

Abbey increased its mortgage lending 10 per cent to £4.6 billion but the rate of new lending fell 5 per cent. Despite the rise in interest rates, the bank increased its interest margin from 2.23 per cent to 2.28 per cent.

Retail savings grew £2.6 billion, compared with £1.5 billion in 1989, to reach £29.7 billion.

Sir Campbell said that despite the rise in repossessions, Abbey was still suffering less arrears than many building societies. He said: "We are doing everything we can to provide people with flexible repayment options, with repossessions as a last resort." Abbey's stock of houses has grown from 1,700 at the start of 1990 to more than 5,000, despite the bank's efforts to sell them.

Peter Birch, the chief executive, said: "We try to get rid of the houses as quickly as possible, but it is not that easy." The bank said repossessions had occurred in every sector of the market.

Abbey has 11,600 borrowers with arrears of more than six months, out of a total of 1.3 million. This is half the industry average.

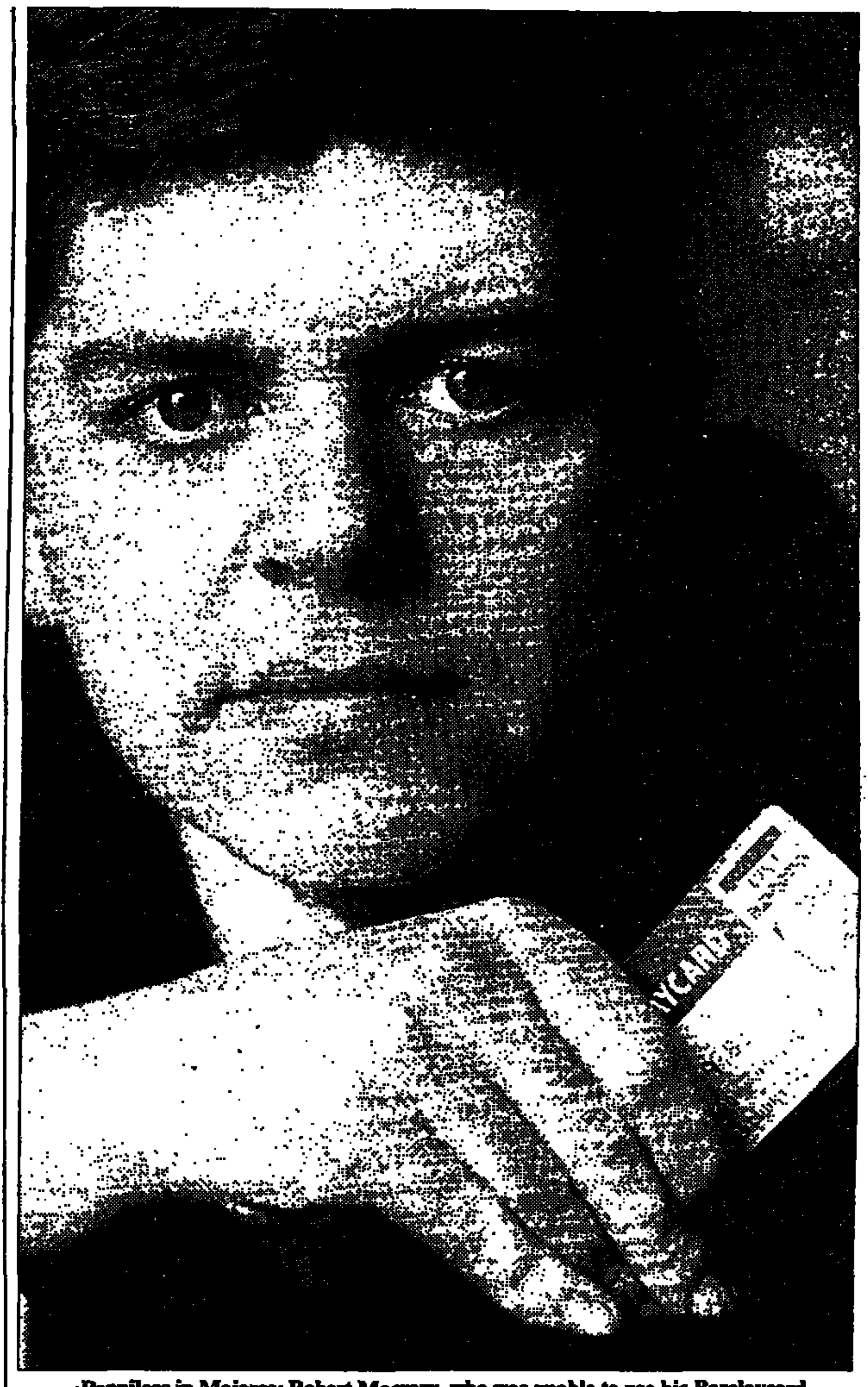
The increased provisions included a £17 million write-off against Abbey's unsecured lending operation, which has loans of only £200 million, and its current account overdrafts of £25 million.

Profits were also hit by a £20 million loss at Cornerstone, Abbey's estate agency chain, and a £24 million loss in its housing development arm. Sir Campbell said the bank remained committed to estate agency. He said: "We feel completely comfortable that when the market turns these losses will turn into profits."

Ficofrance, the French mortgage lender that Abbey bought last year, made a small profit, while Abbey's small operations in Spain and Italy broke even.

Sir Campbell said Abbey was not planning any move into corporate lending despite its full banking licence. He said: "It is not our business. We are going to stick to personal financial services.

Tempus, page 29



·Penniless in Majorca: Robert Macrory, who was unable to use his Barclaycard

Beached in Majorca by inflexible credit card

By Liz Dolan

ROBERT Macrory thought his Barclaycard would provide for all his expenses during a fortnight's holiday in Majorca last summer. Instead he says a lack of cash meant he was forced to sleep on the beach and to sell his watch for food.

Mr Macrory says he was left penniless after being unable to withdraw money from cashpoint machines and banks in Majorca. "They kept telling me the card was unauthorised, but they couldn't tell me why," Mr Macrory says. "I got so desperate that I rang the international rescue line, who told me to ring Barclaycard in Northampton. Barclaycard was annoyed because I reversed the charges. But I only had a few pesetas left." A few hours later, authorisation was re-established and Mr Macrory was able to withdraw cash. "But my holiday was ruined and I came back early," he says. Correspondence with Barclays culminated in a £250 ex-gratia payment from the bank last January.

At that time, Barclays was still unable to explain why Mr Macrory could not use his card. The bank now says the reason was that his card was stolen just before his holiday. His replacement card had the same personal identification number, but a different expiry date, which was why the machines in Spain refused to accept it. Barclays says that two later thefts of Mr Macrory's card hampered attempts to discover what had gone wrong in Majorca.

Mr Macrory says that his card was replaced in October, but because it was lost rather than stolen. He adds that his card may have been lost on another occasion, but he is not certain of this.

British Gas told to keep price low

By Ross Tieman, industrial correspondent

JAMES McKinnon, the director general of gas supply, last night issued an enforcement order compelling British Gas to negotiate a 15-year contract worth tens of millions of pounds at yesterday's prices.

The enforcement order will protect Thames Power, which is planning a 1,000 megawatt power station at Barking, Essex, from a 35 per cent increase in the price of interruptible supplies to large gas users, intended to take effect today. The Office of Gas Supply said there was no justification for the "cynical and exorbitant" increase.

The rise was announced on Thursday. The Thames Power plant is intended to start operation in 1994.

Ofgas said two further enforcement orders might be issued to protect other power station projects from higher gas charges. The order marked the climax of a vitriolic confrontation between Ofgas and British Gas over an abrupt rise in prices intended to curb demand from new power plants.

Mr McKinnon told British Gas that he believed it had breached its operating licence under the Gas Act 1986. The allegation was vigorously contested.

British Gas said that unless an explosion of demand was halted, it might not be able to meet its obligation to domestic customers. Mr McKinnon said that to keep within its licence, the company should have adjusted prices at an earlier stage, and by a smaller amount.

Share fraudsters 'will go to jail'

By Martin Barrow

PRIVATE investors tempted to make illegal multiple applications for shares in PowerGen and National Power were warned they will be sent to jail if caught.

The warning was given after a company formation agent from north London was jailed for four months, having pleaded guilty to making dishonest applications for shares in privatisations through 498 off-the-shelf companies.

Privatisation fraud auditors say methods used to identify Gerald Lewin, aged 39, convicted for applying for shares in 1985-7, have been dramatically improved, increasing the chances of conviction.

Lewin used 498 off-the-shelf firms to unlawfully apply for 767,000 shares in Britoil, TSB, British Gas, British Airways, Rolls-Royce and BAA. He was also fined £50,000 and ordered to pay costs of £5,000.

His partner, Michael Holder, aged 29, who received a quarter of the £86,500 profit, was given a three-month jail sentence, suspended for two years. They believed they had found a loophole in the law. But Judge Patrick Halnan said they must have known they were acting dishonestly.

The two men were unmasked by fraud auditors at Touche Ross. They will also police the power generation sale, using "fuzzy-matching". Touche will use the next generation of fuzzy-matching techniques, which analyses each application in greater detail, for example, questioning the number of dependents claimed by investors.

Power sale, page 29

Battle joined over island idyll

By Matthew Bond

BEING a Scottish laird is not easy, as Malcolm Potier will attest.

Two years ago, Mr Potier, aged 39, a Kent property millionaire, realised an eight-year-old dream by buying the Isle of Gigha, a six-mile-long island off the Mull of Kintyre, complete with its own title, Baron of Gigha.

Gigha is the stuff of dreams, being best known for the rhododendron and sub-tropical garden created by a previous owner, Sir James Horlick, whose horticultural efforts were assisted by the benign influence of the passing Gulf Stream. Gardens apart, it has 150 inhabitants, one main road, a hotel, eight farms and a fish farm. As an escape from modern life, Gigha takes a lot of beating.

In the current economic climate, however, holding on to a dream is no easy matter, as thousands of proud houseowners in Britain have discovered. Next week, Mr Potier goes to the High Court in England and the Court of Session in Scotland to ensure that Gigha remains the property of Tanap Investments, the private company that bought the island for more than £5 million.

Opposing him will be Interallianz Bank of Zurich, which, until Mr Potier obtained a court order against it, had appointed a "heritable creditor" to market the island. As a result of the injunctions successfully obtained by Mr Potier, Interallianz had "absolutely no comment" to make yesterday about the possible sale of Gigha.

Nor indeed has Savills, the estate agent that handled the sale of the island to Tanap in 1989 and which has now been linked to the island again. "We have no comment to make," said a spokesman.

Mr Potier is not so constrained. He described the legal action as "a bit of a fuss between ourselves and the bank". But he was adamant Gigha would remain his.

He said: "The bank has absolutely no authority whatsoever to be instructing a sale. It is not their property. It is ours."

Since Mr Potier's company bought Gigha from David Langdale, money has been ploughed into the island. More than half a million pounds is thought to have been spent on the main house alone, mostly involving furnishing costs. More money is being spent on improving the island's economy, by expanding and upgrading the hotel and improving the quality of the fish farm.

Unlike many other owners of Scottish islands, Mr Potier has been far from reclusive. A number of newspaper interviews provide evidence of his enthusiasm for the island and its inhabitants. Mr Potier will not be giving it up without the fiercest of legal battles.

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Fidelity Investments

Profits fall warning by Stakis

STAKIS, the hotels and casinos to healthcare group, appears to be heading for a sharp drop in profits. Sir Reo Stakis, outgoing chairman and founder, told the annual shareholders' meeting that the financial outcome of this year could be "markedly reduced".

Sir Reo, who has handed the chairmanship to Sir Lewis Robertson, said the hotel division has suffered as a result of the Gulf war and bad weather. Stakis reported a 13 per cent rise in profits to £30.6 million, but it included £17.1 million relating to disposals and £10.9 million of capitalised interest.

THE POUND

US dollar
1.9000 (–0.0095)
German mark
2.9152 (–0.0006)
Exchange index
93.7 (–0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1918.2 (+7.5)
FT-SE 100
2386.9 (+6.0)
New York Dow Jones
2902.23 (+20.05)*
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
25881.57 (–527.65)

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Christies Int	211p (+11p)
Barclays	428½p (+12p)
Standard & Chart	300p (+11p)
J Laing	345½p (+10p)
RMC Group	721p (+11p)
Travis Perkins	238p (+11p)
Baltic	112½p (+10p)
Harvey & Thompson	249p (+10p)
Microgen	163½p (+10p)
Rank Org	731p (+12p)
Weir Group	319½p (+10p)
P-E Intl	184½p (+12p)
Sage Group	224½p (+10p)
Antofagasta	387½p (+15p)
Cosalt	156p (+14p)
Chesterfield	565p (+35p)
Teltos	111½p (+18p)

FALLS:

Fired Earth Tiles	81½p (–13p)
Rothmans 'B'	791p (–18p)
Wellcome	498½p (–11p)

Closing Prices ... Page 28

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 13%
3-month Interbank 12¾-12 11/16%
3-month eligible bills: 12-11 15/16%
US: Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 6¼%*
3-month Treasury Bills 6.10-6.08%*
30-year bonds 95⅝-95 21/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.9000	£: $1.8975*
£: DM2.9152	$: DM1.5368*
£: SwFr2.5251	$: SwFr1.3315*
£: FFr9.9303	$: FFr5.2370*
£: Yen255.26	$: Yen134.51*
£: Index:93.7	$: Index:61.9
ECU £0.702150	SDR £0.740438
£: ECU1.424197	£: SDR1.350551

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $367.45 pm-$366.90
close $366.00-366.50 (£192.25-192.75)
New York:
Comex $367.85-368.35*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr) .... $18.50 bbl
* Denotes latest trading price

Banham calls for tough pay line to avoid lay-offs

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

COMPANIES need to take tough decisions on pay if they are to avoid further redundancies, according to the Confederation of British Industry. The CBI, which this week reported that pay settlements in manufacturing industry are showing their biggest quarterly fall for four years, last night forecast that the increase in retail price inflation, now 9 per cent, could fall to as low as 4 per cent by this time next year.

But despite this, the confederation gave warning of the need to take a tough line on pay, and said that nobody could afford to stand aside in the fight against inflation.

John Banham, the CBI's director general, said more employers would need to follow the example of those who had already made such decisions.

Mr Banham said in Sheffield that more companies would have to defer settlements, as one in ten had done in the past three months, and make low pay offers at the time a settlement was due, with a promise to review pay later.

He even went so far as to suggest that companies which had already tabled pay offers might consider substituting lower offers, to reflect the rapid erosion of order books since pay negotiations were begun.

Such steps, he said, were a sensible alternative to redundancies. Companies would be better advised to "share the pain together" rather than take out capacity that would be needed again when an economic upturn came.

Employees would respond to such moves, he said, and he doubted that warnings of an exodus of skilled workers would not happen, even if pay rises were frozen completely.

Mr Banham gave specific warning against what he called the "failed solutions" of the Seventies over pay, including basing salary rates on the retail price index, pay norms that took no account of performance and regular currency devaluation.

If pay reflected performance across the economy, sterling would rise within the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System and interest rates could be reduced substantially.

Regulatory system threatened by EC plan, says panel

By COLIN NARBROUGH

THE takeover panel is concerned that the protection of shareholders' interests afforded by Britain's regulatory system risks being "severely damaged" if a European directive on takeovers is adopted in its present form.

The warning, from David Calcutt, the panel chairman, to the National Association of Pension Funds conference at Eastbourne, East Sussex, contrasted sharply with the bright picture of the City's future painted by another speaker, Pen Kent, associate director of the Bank of England. He looked forward to London maintaining and enhancing its position as Europe's leading financial centre using market-driven solutions backed by strategic assistance from the authorities.

Mr Calcutt, however, said moves towards the single market foresee harmonisation of takeover rules across the European Community. While the takeover panel's long experience led to it being used as the model for the European directive, he said big differences in the level of takeover activity between the member states, raised the question of whether anything was worth harmonising at present.

With other Community markets unlikely to match British levels of takeover activity in the near future, he said it would be a case of harmonisation for harmonisation's sake, unless some benefits could be shown.

The draft directive threatens the flexibility and speed with which the non-statutory takeover panel operates and could lead to court involvement. Though prepared to accept a simple "framework" directive, which would leave member states free to draw up rules, Mr Calcutt said detailed rules had unfortunately been included in the draft. Mr Kent voiced confidence that the City will continue to thrive and reinforce its position in the single market and as world financial markets become more liberalised and more competitive.

He said this was not based on a complacent belief in automatic success. "Our continued success will be based on market-driven solutions not those created by official bodies with their own agendas."

Underlining the City's leading position in several sectors of the world market, he pointed to the rapid progress made by the futures and options markets in London. Having overtaken Paris in this field, he predicted that financial derivatives would be the growth area of this century.

Another delay for Owners Abroad

By COLIN CAMPBELL

OWNERS Abroad, the tour operator and air seat booker has postponed publication of its results for the second time.

The company traditionally announces results for the 12-month period to end-October in February, but has delayed its 1990 results until March 21. They had originally been expected on February 21, and were then expected on February 28.

Howard Klein, chairman, said that on advice of the company's broker, it was decided to postpone publication until March 21. The decision to delay was taken before the war.

Mr Klein said: "More people are interested in the current and forward booking picture than in historic results. Had we published as planned, we could not reasonably have given shareholders any real indication of current trading. Now with a later publication date planned, we can give an up-to-date picture."

Klein: up-to-date picture

Owners Abroad said that since the end of the war, public interest in bookings had picked up significantly.

The shares yesterday traded at 52p, up 4p.

Continuing trend: Bo Goranson, chairman (left), and Gert Van Laar, European MD

UK buy delights Justitia as profits jump by 79%

By MATTHEW BOND

THE widening economic recession appears to be good for Europe's largest debt collection agency. Pre-tax profits at the Swedish-founded but Amsterdam-based Intrum Justitia jumped 79 per cent to £8.6 million in the year to December.

Justitia's shares arrived on the London stock market last June through a placing that valued the company at £83 million. One month after its debut, Justitia bought CAS group, a British collecter of consumer debt, for £19.6 million.

Now renamed Justitia CAS, the British company collects debts for banks, building societies, mail order companies and credit card groups. Justitia appears delighted with its acquisition. The company said the purchased debt activities of CAS have proved "most pleasing" in terms of collection.

Referring to Justitia's Europe-wide operation, Bo Goranson, chairman, said: "The economic climate has increased demand for our services as companies recognise the importance of ensuring that their customers pay on time. We expect this trend to continue and we are confident that Intrum Justitia will continue to thrive despite recession."

The final dividend has been increased 20 per cent to 1.2p (1p), to give a total distribution of 1.8p (1p).

Options enquiry by ISE

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE International Stock Exchange is to investigate complaints that share prices were manipulated during the ten-minute period when monthly option contracts on the FT-SE 100 share index expired on Thursday.

The index suddenly rose sharply between 11.10am and 11.20am, the period during which it is calculated for the purposes of the option contracts, then quickly subsided.

The London Traded Options market has declared Thursday's index calculation provisional, pending the investigation.

Reforms proposed after an enquiry into complaints last year will only apply when options and futures contracts expire together, not to the normal monthly options contract.

Growth in money supply continues

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

THE upturn in money-supply growth appears to have continued in February. Weekly Bank of England calculations of notes in circulation suggest that the main component of the narrow measure of money supply, M0, is likely to have risen by 0.4 per cent after seasonal adjustments.

This follows increases of 0.5 and 0.6 per cent in December and January respectively. The projected February figure suggests money supply has been growing faster than expected over the winter.

The annualised rate of growth of M0 over the three months to February would be more than 6 per cent. This compares with an annualised fall in M0 over the three months to November. Cash movements at Christmas are subject to heavy seasonal adjustments that can produce distortions.

The annual growth of narrow money would, however, fall back to 3.1 per cent in February, comfortably within the 1-5 per cent target.

Simon Briscoe of Midland Montagu said: "This would be no barrier to further easing of policy. The rapid rates of fall in money supply growth have come to an end, but the news is still good."

Final money-supply figures for January confirm the upward blip in the annual growth of M0 to 3.5 per cent. The rise in bank and building society lending is put at £3.2 billion, against a preliminary estimate of £3.1 billion. The wider measure, including bank and building society deposits, M4, grew 11.2 per cent, revised from 11.1 per cent.

Midland may sell French company

MIDLAND Bank is likely to announce the sale of its French mortgage company on Monday. Shares in Midland SA, its 72 per cent-owned French subsidiary, were suspended on the Paris bourse yesterday.

Midland SA is a small commercial and merchant bank, with assets of Fr17.9 billion. Its shares jumped Fr14 to Fr105 on Thursday on rumours of an announcement.

The bank is said to have been looking for a buyer for Banque Immobiliere de Crédit, its mortgage subsidiary. Midland refused to comment.

Interim cut at Waterman

Waterman Partnership Holdings, the civil and structural engineering group, has cut its interim dividend from 2.2p to 1p after pre-tax profits fell from £2.45 million to £306,000 in the year to end-December. Turnover fell from £8.77 million to £6.22 million.

Earnings per share collapsed from 8.3p to 1p and the company blamed the decline on the deteriorating property and construction sectors.

Alan Cooper falls

Pre-tax profits at Alan Cooper Holdings, the office furniture maker, fell from £3.08 million to £1.94 million in the year to end-December, on turnover down from £13.1 million to £12.7 million. Earnings per share fell 37 per cent from 19.09p to 12.02p, but the final dividend is maintained at 4.9p, making an unchanged 7.7p for the year.

Payout via SIB

Investors in Vandersteen Associates, the failed Belgian futures dealer, will receive up to half their money back after a court ruling. The Securities and Investments Board has obtained an order in the High Court, granting the distribution of about £129,000 to 68 investors after deduction of £20,000 SIB fees.

Triplevest halted

Shares in Triplevest, the split capital investment trust, have been suspended at the company's request. This follows January's decision to wind up the trust. The income shares were suspended at 65p and the capital shares at 1,488p.

Harrods loses 200

Harrods, the central London department store, is to cut 200 jobs rather than the expected 600. The reduction was achieved by finding staff willing to take early retirement, part-time work or sabbaticals.

Jordan resigns

Bob Jordan has resigned as a director of Foseco, the speciality chemicals company that was taken over by Burmah Castrol in 1990. He was formerly managing director.

GREECE FUND LIMITED

INTERIM REPORT

The Directors of Greece Fund Limited announce the unaudited results for the six months ended 31 December 1990.

	At 31 December 1990 US$ 000	At 31 December 1989 US$ 000
Assets applicable to ordinary capital	62,801	33,093
Net asset value per share	$31.28	$16.48
Diluted net asset value per share (assuming conversion of warrants)	$27.80	$15.42
	6 Months Ended 31 December 1990 US$ 000	6 Months Ended 31 December 1989 US$ 000
Dividends & interest from investments	2,002	897
Deposit interest	177	58
Total Revenue	2,179	955
Expenses and interest	886	436
Revenue before taxation	1,293	519
Taxation on the revenue	850	401
Revenue after taxation	443	118
Earnings per share (note 1)	22.07 cents	6 cents

Note:
1. Asset values and earnings per share are based on 2,007,600 shares in issue (1989: 2,007,500)

As a result of the timing of dividend payments by Greek companies, the Fund receives the majority of its investment income in the first six months of its financial year. The Fund pays Greek withholding tax on such income at rates of between 42 and 45 per cent which is not recoverable. In the absence of significant income from investments in the second half year the directors anticipate that there will be a deficit of revenue after taxation in that period and for the year as a whole and that the Fund will not pay a dividend for the year ending 30 June 1991.

During the six months to 31 December 1990, the net asset value of the Greece Fund Limited decreased by 34% compared to a decrease in the Athens Stock Exchange General Index of 37.8%, both expressed in US Dollar terms. During this period, the Drachma appreciated by 3.5% against the US Dollar.

The Interim Report will be sent by mail to registered shareholders at their registered addresses on 11 March 1991 and will be made available to holders of depositary receipts and the public at the offices of Schroder Investment Management Limited, 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS.

Trencherwood in red

TRENCHERWOOD, the building group, suffered an £18.7 million about-turn in the year to end-October, showing a £6 million pre-tax loss (£12.7 million profit). Turnover was £38.3 million (£63 million).

Trencherwood is undertaking a valuation of certain properties to establish "the correct level of exceptional provisions". These will be substantially higher than the £4 million provided for at October 31, 1989. There is no final dividend (3.63p last time), after an 0.5p interim payout.

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	7,687	Cadbury	1,379	L&G	1,119	Royal Bnk	2,518
Alld-Lyons	2,376	CU	568	Lloyds	4,082	Royal Ins	3,374
Anglian	491	Courtaulds	469	Lonrho	2,136	Sainsbury	1,080
ASDA	5,972	Dalgety	65	Lucas	2,642	Scot & N	1,424
AB Foods	433	Enterprise	97	M&S	3,844	Sears	3,093
Argyll	2,656	Eurotunnel	283	Maxwell Cm	1,343	Severn Trnt	1,544
BAA	1,004	Fisons	2,476	MEPC	682	Shell	3,013
BET	2,699	Gen Acc	1,516	Midland	3,516	Smith & N	1,308
BTR	2,944	GEC	8,809	Nat West	2,562	SK Beech	1,323
BAT	1,970	Glaxo	3,066	N W Water	2,576	Sun Allnce	1,885
Barclays	5,068	Grand Met	4,170	P&O	360	Tarmac	2,088
Bass	1,178	GUS 'A'	465	Pearson	1,280	Tate Lyle	1,962
BICC	1,281	GRE	1,119	Pilkington	3,094	TSB	6,683
Bk Scotlnd	1,953	GKN	222	Prudential	1,325	Tesco	3,517
Blue Circle	3,757	Guinness	2,735	Racal	5,985	Thames Wtr	1,088
BOC	586	Hamm 'A'	81	Rk Hovis	1,763	Thorn EMI	796
Boots	2,654	Hanson	5,536	Rank	340	Trafalgar	8,196
Br Aero	2,051	H & C	1,637	R&C	122	THF	1,080
Br Airways	3,352	Hawker	347	Redland	635	Ultramar	750
Br Gas	5,500	Hillsdown	1,935	Reed	1,771	Unilever	1,740
Br Petrol	4,627	ICI	2,221	Reuters	2,029	United Bis	658
Br Steel	5,304	Kingfisher	1,512	RMC Gp	643	Wellcome	861
Br Telecm	9,863	Lasmo	512	RTZ	1,822	Whitbrd	372
Burmah Cst	539	Ladbroke	2,560	R-Royce	4,162	Wgn Teape	1,146
C&W	1,797	Land Sec	713	Rothmn 'B'	204	Willis Cor	775

MAJOR INDICES

New York:	
Dow Jones	2902.23 (+20.05)*
S&P Composite	369.19 (+2.12)*
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	25881.57 (–527.65)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	3552.37 (+0.23)
FT-SE Euro 100	1045.70 (–13.04)
Amsterdam:	
CBS Tendency	88.7 (–0.5)
Sydney: AO	1395.2 (–10.4)
Frankfurt: DAX	1516.74 (–25.35)
Brussels:	
General	5617.36 (+3.58)
Paris: CAC	466.12 (+0.56)
Zurich: SKA Gen	535.1 (–4.4)
London:	
FT.—A All-Share	1154.48 (+4.47)
FT.— "500"	1269.40 (+3.83)
FT. Gold Mines	143.0 (+5.3)
FT. Fixed interest	93.22 (–0.25)
FT. Govt Secs	84.76 (–0.33)
Bargains	36810
SEAQ Volume	594.6m
USM (Datastream)	122.56 (+1.12)

*Denotes latest trading price

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	109 +1
Brabant Res (155p)	134
CMW Group (30p)	25
Castle Cairn (50p)	36
EFM Java Tst (50p)	38
East German Inv	105
Eidos (100p)	59
Europe Energy	15
Faber Prest (175p)	133 –2
Foreign & Col	47
Highcroft Inv	160
Invergordon (135p)	153 +2
Levercrest (108p)	59
MMEC	3½
MMI (20p)	21½ +½
Malaysia Capital	£5⅞
Midland Radio	95
Pelican Gp (50p)	21
Proteus Intl (84p)	98
Seton Healthcare	166
St James Place (130p)	72 +2
Smaller IT	75 +2
Stand Platform (225p)	168

● See main prices page for Electricity shares

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 18	March 1	May 30	June 10

Call options were taken out on: 1/3/91 Acsis Group, Bluebird Toys, Bunzl, Christie Intl, Chrysalis, Danbury Group, Dares Estates, Ferranti, Hillsdown, Ivernia West, Midland & Scottish, Next, Oliver Res, Premier Cons Oil, Ratners, Saatchi & Saatchi, Trafalgar House, Tuskar Res.
Puts: Dares Estates, Reuters.
Puts & Calls: ABI Leisure, Dares Estates, Ferranti.

THE KOREA-EUROPE FUND LIMITED

INTERIM REPORT

The Directors of The Korea-Europe Fund Limited announce the unaudited results for the six months ended 31 December 1990.

	At 31 December 1990 US$ 000	At 31 December 1989 US$000
Assets applicable to ordinary capital	125,414	116,409
Net asset value per share	$4.37	$5.63
	Six Months Ended 31 December 1990 US$ 000	Six Months Ended 31 December 1989 US$ 000
Dividends & interest from investments	211	66
Deposit interest	25	29
Total Revenue	236	95
Expenses and interest	830	751
Deficit before taxation	(594)	(656)
Taxation on the revenue	34	14
Deficit after taxation	(628)	(670)
Deficit per share	2.19 cents	3.24 cents

Over the six months to 31 December 1990 the net asset value of the Company fell by 6.0 per cent compared with a fall in the KSE Composite Stock Price Index of 3.3 per cent and a fall in the value of the Korean Won against the US dollar of 0.1 per cent. The performance of the Korean Stock market during the period was considerably better than most others in the region having already fallen sharply during the first half and with many investors in Korea believing that the conflict in the Gulf would be short lived. The Company maintained a relatively high level of liquidity as the Managers felt that this optimism was misplaced and the Company did not, therefore, fully participate in the market rally during October.

Dividend payments by Korean companies are concentrated into the second half of the Company's financial year and as a result there is a deficit of revenue for the first six months of the current year. The Directors anticipate, however, that there will be a surplus of revenue available for distribution for the year ending 30 June 1991.

The Interim Report will be mailed to registered shareholders at their registered addresses on 18 March 1991 and will be made available to holders of depositary receipts and the public at the offices of Schroder Investment Management Limited, 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS.

How father's footsteps led an East End boy to corridors of power

BUSINESS PROFILE

By Carol Leonard

Lord Sterling of Plaistow

Picture the scene. Lord Sterling of Plaistow, the chairman of P&O, is working the room at a social function. Tall, fit, handsome and somehow just a little too smartly dressed, one finds one's eyes following him everywhere. He is one of dozens of captains of industry at the same gathering and yet there is something that makes him stand out from the crowd.

He looks supremely confident, exceptionally polished, but just a little unreal. Words like detached, aloof and distant spring to mind. He does not seem to be talking to anybody, just strutting around. Perhaps purposefully, perhaps aimlessly. It is as if he is not really there at all.

Lord Sterling, aged 56, admits that he likes to play the voyeur, to stand back and observe people and things. But this time round the observer is himself being observed.

There are countless stories about him dating showgirls in his youth, draping mink coats over their shoulders, driving them round town in an open top Rolls-Royce with his dog on the back seat, and then taking the coats away with him at the end of the evening. With the embellishments that inevitably arise when stories are confidently retold, it conjures a scene straight out of *Showboat*. But these tales are mostly told by men, partly ridiculing him, partly jealous, but wholly fascinated.

For there is an undeniable air of mystery about Lord Sterling that makes him fascinating, to men and women alike. It stems from that detachment. He never allows anyone to get too close. As a result, there is also a great deal of misunderstanding.

Contemporaries, chairmen of other publicly quoted companies who have known him for 20 or 30 years, really do not know him at all. Ring them up to talk about him and they supply a list of questions instead, things *they* would like to find out. When pressed they will mention words like cold, buttoned up, unemotional, dispassionate. Those who know him slightly better refer to his nervousness and insecurity, which stems, they always add, after a momentary pause, from being Jewish. They often allude to his stylishness, his dress sense, implying that he must therefore be vain.

These allegations, although many are far from accurate, are, once again, backed by stories. Of Lord Sterling buying a bowler hat for a television interview to cover his bald patch. Of him having elocution lessons and of his acute embarrassment when he was "found out". The reality of the situation is that Lord Sterling was for many years one of the most eligible bachelors in London.

Like so many successful Jewish businessmen, he was spotted as having potential by Sir Isaac Wolfson, of Great Universal Stores, who gave him a seat on the board of General Guarantee Corporation. Another in the Wolfson galaxy of rising stars at the time was David Young, who was to form his own successful property company. Much later, as Lord Young, he recommended Jeffrey Sterling to replace him as special adviser to the trade department.

He formed Sterling Guarantee Trust in the mid-Sixties. Its nucleus was a hand-picked team of bright young men who developed an eye for spotting troubled companies that were rich in property assets.

SGT became, like its chairman, a rising star in the City. But his business reputation, before boarding P&O, was made through the long and painful rescue of a sprawling, badly financed property company, Town and City. When fringe bankers began to go bust during the mid-Seventies, triggering a collapse in property values, Sterling Guarantee Trust was in a far more robust condition than most of its rivals. Its cautious chairman avoided the excesses of deficit financing that laid many companies low.

> *'If there are two girls sat at a bar there is always one chap in the group who will say, "Leave it to me", and will go up and put his arms around them. I'd rather die'*

The then Jeffrey Sterling took the reins at Town and City at a time when its biggest creditors, the Prudential and Barclays Bank, plus the Bank of England, were all terrified of a collapse. He is usually cast as a white knight in the rescue of T&C. But Sterling Guarantee Trust was itself a creditor through the sale of a number of properties and was in turn threatened by T&C's problems.

By acclaim though, Lord Sterling, with the strong support of the Bank of England, succeeded against heavy odds in saving Town and City. During the six years it took, he won the admiration, and frequently the gratitude, of City institutions and bankers.

In 1985, he merged SGT with P&O, a company now capitalised at almost £3 billion, and became its chairman. His personal stake is worth about £3 million and he is paid more than £450,000 a year. He successfully fought off a hostile takeover bid by Trafalgar House, the rival shipping group, fighting his corner against Sir Nigel Broackes, a man not easily thwarted.

Lord Sterling might like to play the part of a wallflower but he is not a shrinking violet. If he played football as a boy, it was on the condition that he was captain of the team. A talented violinist, he learned to play at the age of nine and studied the instrument for two years at the Guildford School of Music and Drama. But he was not by nature a solo performer. Although he is attracted to it, he does not enjoy being under the glare of a spotlight.

He admits that he was always "extremely nervous" before and during a performance. To this day if he has to speak in public he will cling on to the edge of the table with his fingernails. He demonstrates with upturned hands.

"If you are really a shy person, you spend your life overcoming it, but it never really changes. If there are two girls sat at a bar there is always one chap in the group who will say, 'Leave it to me', and will go up and put his arms around them, chatting to complete strangers. I would rather die than be the one to go over."

Now picture again that apparently confident man, mingling so silently with his industrial counterparts. It was presumably aimless rather than purposeful. Ask him about that insecurity that others refer to and, curiously, Lord Sterling immediately mentions his religion. Brought up by semi-orthodox parents of Russian, Romanian and Polish origin, the family name was originally Steinberg.

"It was changed in the Twenties by either my grandfather or father," says Lord Sterling with surprising vagueness, but without hesitation. And to explain its link with insecurity he adds: "The reason why so many Jews in percentage terms succeed in music, the arts or business is so that they can drive on out of insecurity. The only way you become secure is to create your independence."

Yet Lord Sterling's own performance at school was, he says, "mediocre, run of the mill". Born in Whitechapel, in London's East End, he moved with his family to Surrey during the war and, although it was a happy childhood, he did not enjoy school.

"They were certainly not the happiest days of my life. I found it very confining." He excelled, however, on the rugby pitch and the athletic field.

"If my fellow pupils could remember me at all, it would probably be on the sports field." He continued to train as a sprinter and long jumper after he left school — Reigate Grammar and Preston Manor County — with Finchley Harriers and then in the RAF during his national service. "I did it dead seriously. From the age of 16 I was taken in hand by a former chief Olympic coach and people like that. I was fast."

Everything Lord Sterling does is done seriously. "I am very single minded. If I want to go out and win, I go straight for it."

As for emotion and passion, he admits that one has to look hard to see it, but it is there. After the Zeebrugge disaster he walked through the morgue. "I have never experienced anything like that before. It made me break down. And then when the press had a go and said I didn't care. I was so angry I felt like hitting someone, if you can understand that." He was once, at about that time, found in tears in his office.

Yet he is aware that to the outside world he can appear cold and clinical. "When my father died, about eight years ago, I was like stone at the funeral. Everyone noticed it, even though they knew how close we had been. I went around shaking everyone by the hand, perfectly in control. It hit me about three weeks later, when I was with my brother."

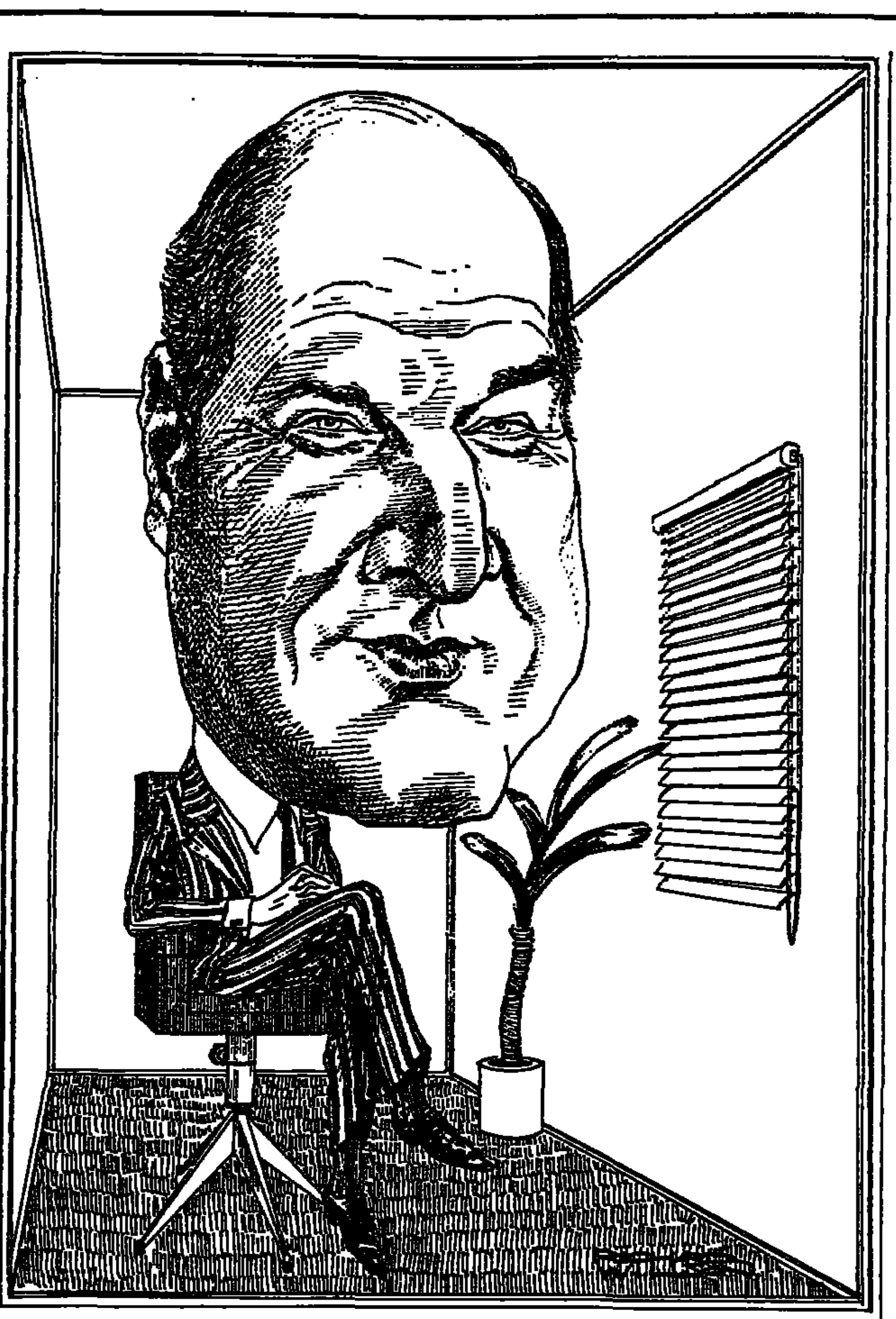
Lord Sterling defends his behaviour. "I'm always doubtful about people who are public about their passion. If I feel passionate about something, then it's something particularly private. The occasional woman might make me feel passionate, my brother might. But I would be surprised and highly embarrassed if anyone you could talk to would be aware of what I felt passionate about." And he is, of course, absolutely right.

The middle-born of three children, he remains close to both his sister and his brother. It was, however, his father, Harry, who was his closest friend and greatest influence. Raised in what Lord Sterling describes as a semi-orphanage, Sterling senior worked for himself all his life except for a few months in an East End sweatshop at the age of 16.

"He eventually went into partnership and ended up running a publicly-quoted company, Sterling and Michaels, which had entertainment interests around the coast in the Fifties and Sixties."

Lord Sterling still misses his father. One of his greatest regrets is that he did not live to see his son's peerage, knighthood, chairmanship of P&O or even meet his daughter, Anna, now aged seven.

"It would have been a great pleasure for him to have known Anna. But, on the other hand, one feels he has been able to share what has happened. Much of it is due to him. Even the title I have now, if you want, is doing honour to his name. If it hadn't been for the way he had set the path, I wouldn't be doing what I'm doing now."



His father would also have been proud of his son's mounting political influence. As an adviser to the trade department, Lord Sterling did, after all, survive seven successive secretaries of state. He finally stood down at the end of last year.

Still bound by the Official Secrets Act and awarded his peerage in Margaret Thatcher's resignation honours list, Lord Sterling is quick to deny that his Whitehall associations gave him political influence. Now a generous contributor to Conservative party funds, he used to vote Liberal.

He is open about his enjoyment of this work. "To sit in the Cabinet room taking part in conversation, of course there is a sense of being in the corridors of power. Of course, it is exciting. I was not a politician, nor a political adviser; my answers were always from a commonsensical point of view."

Lord Sterling seems anxious to play down his "close friendship" with Mrs Thatcher. "I knew her well but was never as close as people thought. I only called her Margaret for the first time after she stood down. It was always exaggerated about us being close friends. But I have always had tremendous respect for her. I think she is an extraordinary woman."

The one area where Lord Sterling is not so frank is his private life, which he is adamant he will not discuss in any "on the record" way. There are countless newspaper cuttings on the subject, from gossip columns galore. Although it is generally accepted he is not by nature a philanderer, his love life has been extraordinarily complicated. Even Lord Sterling agrees.

In short, there are two women in his life. One, Dorothy, his former secretary and the mother of his child, whom he married six years ago; the other, a woman he loves dearly, but has agreed, for the past year, not to see. He admits that this has been difficult, and gives the impression that the issue has not yet been resolved.

Just as he is nervous of letting himself go during a violin concert, or on a public speaking platform, so he is terrified of becoming personally involved.

"To lay yourself open to someone like that, so that they could tear you up into little pieces, requires an enormous amount of trust," he says.

Business chiefs to lead share campaign

By Colin Narbrough

TWO of corporate Britain's leading names plan by the summer to set up an organisation to spread share ownership wider than at present.

Sir John Harvey-Jones, president of the Wider Share Ownership Council and former ICI chairman, and Sir Peter Thompson, chairman of NFC, have spent about two months working on the project, which has the backing of the International Stock Exchange and companies, Peter Davis, the WSOC director, said.

Addressing the last day of the National Association of Pension Funds conference in Eastbourne, Mr Davis said the WSOC would be absorbed by the larger organisation, which would educate the public about investing in stocks and shares, even taking the cause into schools.

Mr Davis acknowledged that the number of shareholders had been boosted dramatically in the Eighties to about 11 million this year, encouraged by the big privatisation issues. Only a small core of shareholders, estimated in the City at fewer than 500,000, can be regarded, however, as long-term shareholders.

He said most shareholders only have shares in one or two companies and tend to regard them as "sophisticated gambles". Private shareholders hold only about 20 per cent of total shares in terms of market capitalisation, against 38 per cent in the late Seventies.

Mr Davis said the new organisation, which follows recommendations by a Confederation of British Industry task force, would try to ensure people had enough knowledge to take advantage of the "appetisers" privatisation issues provided. He underlined the need to make investors long-term shareholders, deepening and widening their involvement in securities.

Mr Davis saw wider share ownership having "come of age", with greater interest in encouraging small investors to hold shares than before. Tax incentives and steps to make share dealing less expensive will be some of the other objectives of the body. About £1 million is being raised to set up the organisation.

Mr Davis said a key message will be that there are benefits and dangers in investing in shares.

Global soars to £5m

By Matthew Bond

GLOBAL Group, a former meat products company, has returned to the dividend list after an 860 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £5 million last year.

Global is paying a final dividend, of 0.5p, for the first time in two years. The dividend is the first return for the consortium put together to rescue the company in 1989 by Michael Shafran, a former stockbroker and now Global's joint chairman. Mr Shafran and his partners injected £4.2 million into Global in 1989.

The group's takeover of the EIC private shipping and cargo company, for £12.5 million, transformed its profitability.

Its core meat business was running at a loss of £2.6 *million a* year before Mr Shafran's rescue. EIC was making profits of close to £1 million. EIC's profitability has been further enhanced by the abolition of the National Dock Labour Scheme.

According to Robert Evans, Global's chief executive, EIC is the only cargo company that offers an integrated cargo-handling service from Hull, Immingham, Grimsby and Goole, the Humber's main ports. The group owns 255 acres at Goole, where it plans a business park.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

UBS profits slide 9% but dividend is held

UNION Bank of Switzerland suffered a fall of 9.3 per cent in net profits last year to SFr896.7 million (£354 million). But the dividend will be held at Fr135 on each bearer share, Fr27 on each register share and Fr5.40 on each participation certificate because of "a positive outlook" for this year.

No figures for the Phillips and Drew stockbroking and fund manangement businesses in London are available. But UBS made it clear that asset management in London performed well and equity losses were contained to significantly below £10 million. However, a provision against a holding of 6 million shares in Polly Peck has been charged separately against group profits. The London corporate finance arm almost broke even.

Tor Trust income rises

TOR Investment Trust reports pre-tax revenue ahead from £922,000 to £988,000 for the six months to end-January. The net asset value stood at 963.5p (£12.32) per capital share. Earnings per income share rose from 16.87p to 18.017p. There is a second interim dividend of 9.5p per income share, making 19p (16p) so far for the current year.

Berisford sells stakes

BERISFORD International has sold its 85 per cent stake in Berisford Consumer Finance (Western) and its 100 per cent of Berisford Consumer Finance (Southern) to the Bank of Wales for a nominal sum. The bank has repaid Berisford inter-company borrowings of about £12.9 million. The two have net debtor balances of about £15.5 million.

Unigroup lifts profit

PRE-TAX profits at Unigroup, the timber, building products and clothing group, advanced to £708,000 (£527,000) in the six months to end-December. Turnover climbed to £11.1 million (£10.3 million).

Timber products produced the bulk of earnings, despite profits dipping to £543,000 (£583,000), on turnover down to £4.81 million (£5.28 million). Earnings per share rise to 1.9p (1.39p). The shares, which firmed 3p ahead of the results, remained 20p. Again, there is no interim dividend.

Reverse takeover by Ross

By Gillian Bowditch

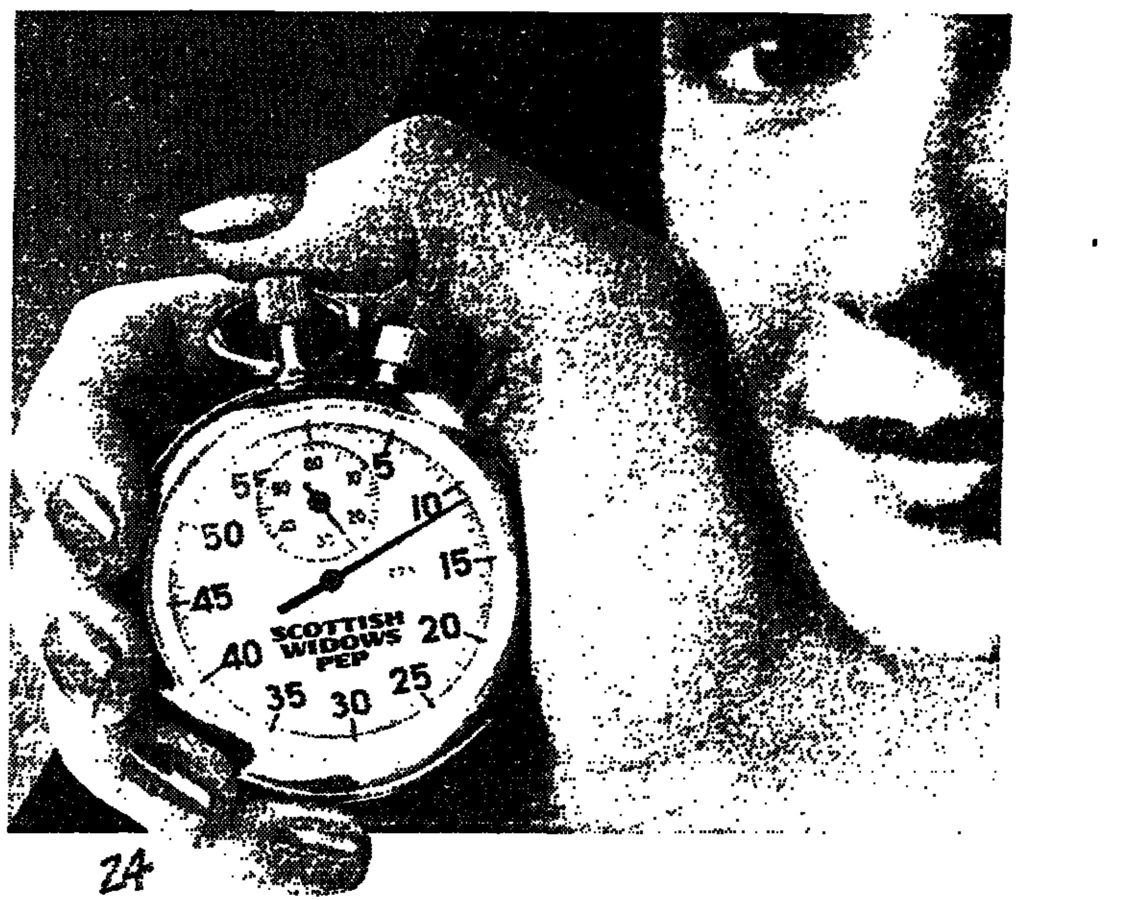
ROSS Group, the packaging and consumer electronics company quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, is making a reverse takeover of Whittington, the ailing greetings cards and giftware manufacturer.

After the deal, which values Ross at £16.9 million, Ross shareholders will control 91 per cent of Whittington and the electronics group will receive a main market listing.

The deal takes the form of a recommended offer by Whittington for Ross on the basis of 19 new Whittington ordinary shares for each Ross share. Irrevocable undertakings have been made for 52.1 per cent of Ross. Whittington will change its name to Ross and Whittington's directors will resign.

In addition, Whittington is selling Macsel Greetings, its main trading subsidiary, to its management for £7.4 million and also Cooper Ludlam, a cutlery manufacturer, to its management for £650,000. Ross intends to keep the Images and Editions greeting card subsidiary of Whittington.

Ross, which will announce its results and a second interim dividend of 0.75p on Tuesday, restructured via a rescue rights issue that raised £1.2 million in October 1989.



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Source *Money Management April 1990 Managed Fund Sector Performance **Money Management May 1990

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No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Wholesale Fittings	Electricals	
2	North West	Water	
3	Edmond Hldgs	Building,Roads	
4	SEET	Textiles	
5	Rotork	Industrials L-R	
6	Dawns Grp	Drapery,Stores	
7	Expamet	Industrials E-K	
8	Cape	Industrials A-D	
9	Br Borneo	Oil,Gas	
10	Heywood Williams	Building,Roads	
11	Hampson Ind	Industrials E-K	
12	Chamberlin & Hill	Industrials A-D	
13	Argus Gp	Paper,Print,Adv	
14	Park Foods	Foods	
15	Yorkshire TV	Leisure	
16	Gaskell	Textiles	
17	Racal Elect	Electricals	
18	Northumbrian	Water	
19	Vaux Group	Breweries	
20	Westerly	Industrials S-Z	
21	Auto Sec	Electricals	
22	TV-AM	Leisure	
23	Bespak	Industrials A-D	
24	Powerscreen	Industrials L-R	
25	Williams Hldgs	Industrials S-Z	
26	Microfilm Repro	Electricals	
27	Lex Service	Motors,Aircraft	
28	NSM	Building,Roads	
29	Howden	Industrials E-K	
30	TSB	Banks,Discount	
31	Woodside	Oil,Gas	
32	Low (Wm)	Foods	
33	TIF Europe	Transport	
34	Elbief	Industrials E-K	
35	Tie Rack	Drapery,Stores	
36	Triplex Lloyd	Industrials S-Z	
37	Calor Gp	Oil,Gas	
38	Brydon	Industrials A-D	
39	API	Paper,Print,Adv	
40	Br Airways	Transport	
41	Ramc Ind	Building,Roads	
42	Ductus	Industrials A-D	
43	Brent Chems	Chemicals,Plas	
44	Ash & Lacy	Industrials A-D	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.	Daily Total		

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £4,000 will be added to Monday's competition.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Shares edge ahead

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 25. Dealings end March 8. §Contango day March 11. Settlement day March 18. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

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WEEKLY DIVIDEND
£8,000
Claims required for +272 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1990/91 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int only yld%	Gross Red yld%
98¾	89¾	Treas	3% 1991	98¾	..	3.0	10.048
98¾	90¾	Fund	5¾% 1987-91	99¾	●+⅛	5.7	11.008
97¾	87¾	Treas	8% 1991	97¾	..	8.16	11.149
99¾	94¾	Treas C	10% 1991	99¾	..	10.0	11.873
99¾	89¾	Exch	11% 1991	99¾	..	11.0	11.417
99¾	92¾	Treas	11¾% 1991	99¾	..	0.00	0.000
93	82¾	Treas	3% 1992	93	..	3.22	8.881
97	85¾	Treas	8% 1992	97	..	8.2	10.945
99¾	90¾	Treas	10% 1992	99	..	10.0	11.007
99¾	89¾	Treas	C10¼% 1992	99¾	–⅛	10.5	10.949
102¾	92	Exch	12¼% 1992	101¾	–⅛	12.0	10.947
101¾	93¾	Treas	12¾% 1992	101¾	..	12.5	11.061
104	96¾	Exch	13½% 1992	103¾	●–⅛	13.0	10.720
92¾	81¾	Fund	6% 1993	92¾	● ..	6.4	9.948
98¾	86¾	Treas	8¼% 1993	98	–⅛	8.5	10.808
99¾	87	Treas	10% 1993	99	–⅛	10.1	10.621
104¾	93¾	Treas	12½% 1993	104	–⅛	12.0	10.480
108¾	94	Treas	13¾% 1993	107¾	–⅛	12.7	10.440
95¾	84¾	Treas	8½% 1994	95¾	–⅛	8.9	10.549
96¾	82¾	Treas	9% 1994	95¾	–⅛	9.3	10.205
99¾	84	Treas	10% 1994	99¾	–⅛	10.0	10.271
106¾	94¾	Exch	12¼% 1994	105¾	–⅛	11.7	10.391
109	94¾	Exch	13½% 1994	108¾	–⅛	12.4	10.341
111¾	89¾	Treas	14½% 1994	110¾	●–⅛	13.1	10.285
87	72¾	Gas	3% 1990-95	84	..	4.07	10.705
100¾	88	Exch	10¼% 1995	100	–⅛	10.2	10.245
106¾	94¾	Treas	12% 1995	105¾	–⅛	11.3	10.295
109¾	94¾	Treas	12¾% 1995	109	–⅛	11.6	10.363

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
224	119	Ryl Bk Scot	182	186	+5	11.2	5.8	9.1
902	613	Schroders	735	780	—	22.2	3.0	10.2
815	205	Stand Chart	298	302	+11	46.7	15.6	—
181	114	TSB	158	160●	+1	8.6	5.3	11.9
611	469	Union Disc	570	578●	—	46.7	8.1	10.1
525	264	Warburg SG	400	405	-4	20.0	5.0	7.0
179	50	Do 6% 'A'	132	135●	-1	8.0	6.8	—
50¼	21½	Wells Fargo	36¾		+1½	—	—	—
279	128	Westpac	162	166	-3	—	—	—
420	295	Wintrust	315	325●	—	11.9	3.7	8.5

BREWERIES

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
590	409	Allied-Lyons	525	527	-7	23.4	4.4	11.0
11¼	895	Bass	10¼	10¾	+¼	43.2	4.1	10.7
170	124	Boddington	150	153	+1	7.2	4.7	18.0
288	161	Bulmer (H P)	200	208	+2	10.8	5.2	15.3
227	105	Burtonwood Brew	113	122	+8	5.3	4.5	11.0
410	290	Clark (Matthew)	393	402●	—	18.0	4.5	13.8
286	115	Devenish (JA)	155	162	+3	7.1	4.5	11.7
115	45	Fosters Brewing Gp	53	55●	—			
743	521	Grand Met	730	733●	-3	27.2	3.7	13.2
389	274	Greenall Wht	323	327	-3	13.3	4.1	12.5
425	313	Greene King	413	422	-6	13.8	3.3	14.9
823	530	Guinness	804	808	+2	21.7	2.7	17.0
955	670¼	Hardys & Hansons	925	940●	+5	44.7	4.8	11.4
261	182	Highland Dist	256	263	+1	8.4	2.5	18.7
159	120	Invergordon Dist	151	155	+2	6.7	4.4	19.5
490	375	Mansfield	440	450	+1	19.3	3.4	11.8
222	180	Marston Thompson	200	205	+1	5.6	2.8	16.5
300	240	Morland	240	250	—	8.5	3.4	12.5
730	463	SA Breweries	715	735	+5	—	—	—
407	275	Scot & New	395	400	-2	18.2	4.6	14.3
320	174	Vaux Group	223	228	+4	11.7	5.2	11.7
498	380	Whitbread 'A'	483	488	-5	20.4	4.2	13.5
14¾	11¾	Do 'B'	13	13¾	—	20.4	1.5	37.3
449	339	Wolvrmptn & D	445	452	—	12.4	2.8	12.7
495	380	Young 'A'	395	415	+2	16.0	4.0	19.2

BUILDING, ROADS

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
130	40	Abbey	62	72	—	—●	—	—
254	180	Amec	252	255	+1	13.0	5.1	7.4
132	17	Anglia Sec	51	54	-5	—	—	—
155	73	Ancliffe	90	108	—	9.0	9.3	2.5
531	182	Attwoods	210	216	+2	6.3	3.0	18.5
259	160	BPB Ind	227	230	-3	15.0	6.6	9.8
144	69	Baggeridge Brick	94	100	+3	4.2	4.3	11.4
71	25	Bailey (Ben) Constr	47	50	—	2.5	5.1	5.1
165	87	Benlox Group	123	125●	+1	5.1	4.1	13.1
215	57	Barratt Devs	87	90	+2	12.0	13.5	9.4
178	82	Beazer PLC	147	150	+2	10.8	6.9	8.8
243	144	Bellway	240	245	+1	14.7	6.0	13.1
41	9	Bellwinch	16	18	—	—	—	—
306	142	Berkeley Gp	303	308	+2	6.0	2.0	10.2
142	105	Bett Bros	105	115	-3	8.5	7.7	8.3
155	87	Blockleys	97	105	—	8.4	8.3	7.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 36

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

TRANSPORT

WATER

1990/91 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'ge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
313	209	Anglian Water	294	297●	+2	20.4	6.9	6.8
315	219½	Northumbrian	304	309●	+2	21.4	7.0	3.6
318	211½	North West	294	297●	+2	21.0	7.1	6.4
298	180	Severn Trent	284	287●	—	19.6	6.9	4.8
300	191	Sthn Water	271	275●	-4	20.0	7.3	5.9
327	208	South West	292	297●	-2	23.2	7.9	4.7
315	209	Thames Water	301	303●	+3	21.4	7.1	7.4
332	219	Welsh Water	321	325●	+1½	22.4	6.9	5.2
377	203	Wessex Water	371	373●	+8	20.3	6.6	7.1
321	221½	Yorkshire Water	300	305●	+4	20.8	6.8	6.5
£3045	£1900	Package Unit	£2900		●+£12			

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment h Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

WALL STREET

New York

BLUE chips partly recovered in mid-morning from opening losses but still remained weak amid continued profit-taking.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 14 points at 2,868.18 after dropping by as many as 27 points. A higher than expected rise in the National Association of Purchasing Managers' index helped the market to recover, traders said. *(Reuter)*

	Mar 1 midday	Feb 28 close		Mar 1 midday	Feb 28 close		Mar 1 midday	Feb 28 close
Abbott Lab	45%	46%	Enron	56%	56%	Oryx Enrgy	38%	38%
Aetna Life	45%	45%	Entergy	23%	23%	Pac Ent	42	42%
Ahmanson	17	16%	Ethyl	29	29	Pac Gas Elec	25%	25%
Air Prods	63%	64%	Exxon	55	55%	Pac Telesis	42%	42%
Albertsons	38%	38%	Fed NMA	44%	45%	Paccar	39%	39%
Alcan Al	22%	22	Fedrl Exprs	40%	41%	Pacificrop	22	22%
Alco Stand	32	32%	Fit Norstar	14%	15	Pall	32%	32%
Allied Signal	29%	29%	Fluor	53%	53	Paramount	42%	42%
Alumin CA	65%	64%	FMC	37%	37	Parker-Hanin	28%	28%
Am Brands	44%	44	Ford Motor	33%	32%	Penney	53%	53%
Am Cyanmd	55%	55%	FPL	29%	29%	Pennzoil	70%	70%
Am EPC	28%	28%	Fst Chicago	24%	23%	Pepsico	32%	32%
Am General	39%	38%	Fst Intrsta	35%	34	Pfizer	104	105
Am Home	56%	56%	Fst Union	19%	19%	Phlps Pet	28	27%
Am Intl	90%	90%	Gannett	38%	38%	Philips Elec	18%	18%
Am Medical	5%	5%	Gen Cinema	23%	23	Phlp Morris	65%	65%
Am Stores	70	70%	Gen Elec	68%	68%	Phlps Dodge	66%	65%
Amax	25%	25%	Gen Mills	53	53%	Pitney Bow	51	52%
Amer Hess	49	49%	Gen Motors	39%	39%	Plcr Dome	14%	14%
Ameritech	65%	66	Gen RE	97%	96%	PNC Fncl	27%	28%
Amex	24%	24%	Gen Signal	42%	43	Pnhdle Estn	14%	14%
Amoco	51%	52%	Genentech	28%	28%	Polaroid	28%	28%
AMP	50%	49%	Genuine Pts	41%	41	PPG Inds	52%	53
AMR	61%	60%	Georgia-Pac	41%	41%	Prctr Gmble	81%	81%
Anheuser-B	48%	47%	Gillette	72%	72%	Price	42%	41%
Apple Comp	58%	57%	Goodrich	40%	40%	Primerica	30%	30%
Archer-Dan	22%	22%	Goodyear	20%	20%	Pub Service	27%	27%
Arkla	19%	19%	Grace	29%	29	Quaker Oats	56%	56
Armstrong	28%	29	Greyhound	29%	29%	Ralston Pur	105%	105%
Asarco	29	29%	Gt Atlantic	53	52%	Raychem	26%	26%
Ashland Oil	33%	33%	Gt Western	17	16%	Raytheon	74%	75%
AT&T	33%	33%	GTE	31½	31%	Reebok	20%	20%
Atlan Richfld	128%	129%	Halliburtn	52%	53%	Roadway	47%	47
Auto DP	52	52%	Heinz	36%	35%	Rockwell	27%	27%
Avery Intl	24	23%	Hercules	40	39%	Rohm Haas	42%	42%
Avon Prod	41½	41½	Hershey Fd	39%	39%	Royal Dutch	81½	81½
Baltimore	28%	28%	Hewlett Pkd	47%	46%	Rubbermaid	44%	44
Banc One	33%	33	Hilton Htl	43%	43%	Rynlds Mtl	63%	62%
Bankamerica	33	32%	Home Depot	45%	45%	Safeco	38%	38%
Bard	21%	22%	Homestake	16%	16%	Salomon	28%	28%
Barnett Bl	23%	23	Honeywell	60%	60%	Sant Fe Pac	7%	7%
Bausch Lmb	76%	76%	Houston Ind	36%	36%	Sara Lee	34%	34%
Baxter Intl	30%	31½	Hsehld Intl	47%	47	Schecorp	38%	38%
Bec Dickn	72%	72%	Humana	45%	45%	Schlumbgr	62%	63%
Bell Atlan	49	49	IBM	130%	129	Schrg-Plgh	48	49%
Bellsouth	52%	51½	IF&F	82%	82%	Scott Papr	44%	43%
Blk Hughes	28%	30	Illinois TW	55%	55%	Seagram	93%	93
Black Decker	12%	12%	Inco	31½	31½	Sears Rbk	31	31½
Block	47%	46%	Ingsol-Rand	51½	52	Secrty Pac	29	27%
Bnkrs Tst NY	46%	46%	Inland Steel	28%	28%	Shrwn-Wllms	42%	42%
Boeing	49%	48%	Intel	48	47%	Skyline	16%	16%
Boise Casc	25%	25%	Intl Paper	61½	61½	Snap-on Tls	31	31½
Borden	34%	34	ITT	58%	55%	Southern	27%	27%
Brist-Myer	75	74%	James River	26%	26%	St Paul	66%	66%
Browng-Fer	27%	27%	Johnsn Jhsn	82	82%	Stanley Wk	35%	34%
Burl Nth	29%	29%	K Mart	36	35	Stone Cntr	15%	14%
CAI	9	9%	Kellogg	63%	63%	Sun Co	32%	32%
Campbell Sp	70%	70%	Kerr-McGee	46%	46%	Suntst Bk	25%	25%
Cap Cities	476	466	Kimbly-Clrk	87%	86	Super Valu	25%	25%
Capital HC	44%	45%	Knght-Riddr	49%	48%	SW Bell	53%	53%
Carolina	47	47	Lilly	81½	79	Syntex	76%	75%
Caterpillar	55	54%	Limited	23%	23%	Sysco	37%	37
CBS	173	170	Lin Brdcstg	65%	66%	Tandem	13%	13%
Central SW	43%	44	Lincln Nat	49%	49	Tandy	31	30%
Champion	27%	26%	Litton Ind	82%	82%	Tele-comm	15	14%
Chase Man	14	14%	Lockheed	40	39%	Teledyne	22%	21½
Chem Bnkg	18%	16%	Louis-Pac	31½	31½	Temple-In	36%	37%
Chevron	75%	75%	Manu Hano	24%	24%	Tenneco	48%	48%
Chrysler	14%	14%	Marriott	17%	18%	Texaco	64%	63%
Chubb	66%	66%	Marsh Mclen	75%	74%	Texas Inst	41½	41½
Cigna	48%	48%	Martin Mar	46%	46%	Texas Util	36%	36%
Citicorp	15	15%	Masco	22%	21½	Textron	29%	29%
Clbrne Liz	41½	41½	May Dept	50%	50%	Time Wrnr	109%	109
Clorox	39%	39%	Maytag	13%	13%	Times Mirr	28%	28%
Crwlth Edis	38%	38%	MCA	n/a	n/a	Timken	26%	26%
CNA Fincl	85%	86%	McDnl Doug	39%	40%	Torchmark	55%	55%
Coastal	32%	32	McDonalds	31½	31½	Toys R Us	27	27%
Coca-Cola	52%	52%	McGraw-Hill	57	58%	Transam	36%	36%
Colgate-Pal	74	73%	MCI Com	26%	26%	Travelers	21	20%
Columb Gas	43%	43	Mead	29%	29%	Tribune	40%	41
Compaq	70%	69%	Medtronic	110	108	TRW	41½	40%
Conagra	42	41%	Melville	49	49%	Tyco Lab	44%	45
Cons Edis	24%	24	Merck	101%	102%	UAL	146%	144
Cons NG	42%	42	Merll Lynch	29%	28%	Un Camp	40%	40%
Cons Rail	49%	48%	MMM	88%	88%	Un Carbide	19	19
Cooper Ind	50%	50%	Mobil	69%	69	Un Pacific	77%	77%
Corning	55%	55%	Monsanto	58%	58%	Unilever	86%	86
CPC Intl	80%	81½	Moore	24	24	Unisys	4%	4%
Crown Cork	84	83%	Morgan	45%	46%	Unocal	27%	27%
CSX	37%	37%	Motorola	61	59%	Upjohn	47%	45%
Dana	29%	29	Nat Medical	43%	43%	US West	36%	36%
Dayton-Hud	68%	68%	Nat Semi	7	6%	Usair Gp	22	21½
Deere	51%	51%	Nat Service	25%	25%	USF&G	9%	9%
Delta Air	77%	75%	Navistar	3%	3%	UST	42%	42%
Deluxe	38%	37%	NCNB	29%	29%	USX	30%	30%
Detroit Ed	29%	29%	NCR	96%	96%	Utd Tech	49%	49%
Digital Eq	74%	72%	NED Bncp	39%	39%	Utd Telcm	24%	24%
Dillard	96%	98%	Newmnt Min	38%	38%	VF	25%	25%
Disney	122%	123%	Niagr Mhwk	14%	14%	Wal-Mart	35%	35%
Dominion	47	47%	Nike	48%	48%	Walgreen	n/a	n/a
Donnelley	43%	44%	NL Indstrs	11%	11%	Waste Mgmt	42%	42%
Dover	41	41%	Nordstorm	36	34%	Wells Fargo	72%	70%
Dow Chem	53%	53%	Norflk Sthn	44	44	Westg Elec	27	26%
Dow Jones	25%	25%	No-west	25%	25%	Weyerhsr	23%	23%
Dresser Ind	26%	26%	Nthn St Pwr	34%	34%	Whirlpool	26%	25%
Du Pont	38	37%	Nthn Telcm	29%	28%	Whitman	22%	22%
Duke Pwr	28	28%	NY Times	21%	22	Winn-Dixie	37%	37%
Dun Bradst	44%	44%	Nynex	75%	74%	Woolworth	33	32%
East Kodak	44%	43%	Occid Petl	20%	20%	Wrigley	80%	80%
Eaton	57%	57%	Ohio Ed	18%	18%	Wrner-Lamb	75%	76%
Emerson El	43%	43%	Oracle Sys	8%	9	Xerox	56%	59%

STOCK MARKET

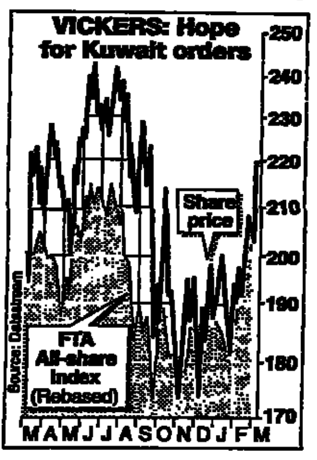
Caution returns after Gulf war celebrations

IT WAS a case of the morning after the night before in the equity market as Thursday's euphoria at the end of the Gulf war gave way to a more cautious outlook.

Share prices traded nervously within narrow limits for most of the day with attention on the second and third liners. No real trend emerged among the leaders with the FT-SE 100 index recovering from a fall of nearly 13 points to end 6 points better at 2,386.9. Nearly 600 million shares were traded but dealers said that a large portion of this was left over from the previous day's business.

The FT index of 30 shares rose 7.5 to 1,918.2. Government securities managed to halve falls of £½ as hopes for another early cut in base rates faded.

Full-year figures from **Abbey National** were knocked by a fourfold increase in provisions for bad and doubtful debts to £55 million and losses of £20 million in its estate agency division. Pre-tax profits rose 16 per cent to £582 million and the final dividend is increased from 5.7p to 6.3p. But the shares held steady at 257p.



Barclays Bank continued to respond to Thursday's better than expected profits and its proposals to cut costs with the shares rising 12p to 429p. Barclays remains the most strongly capitalised of the big four British banks and its yield continues to attract the income funds. **Midland Bank**, reporting next week, rose 5p to 195p. There is still intense speculation on whether its dividend will be cut. **Lloyds** ended 7p dearer at 343p and **National Westminster** 2p up at 313p.

Pearson, the publisher of the *Financial Times* which also owns Madame Tussauds, dropped to 713p before rallying to finish only 3p cheaper at 723p after Elsevier, the Dutch publisher, denied that it was planning to dispose of its 9.3 per cent holding. Pearson also owns 22.3 per cent of Elsevier.

Vickers, the Challenger tanks and Rolls-Royce luxury cars group, shrugged off some of its recent weakness with a rise of 5p to 221p. The recent placing of the 20 per cent stake owned by Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand businessman, had left stock overhanging the market. The profits warning prompted by the downturn in orders for Rolls-Royce cars, had also depressed sentiment.

Cosworth has made a useful contribution to profits and its engines, already fitted to Ford's Sierra, will be extended to the Escort and Scorpio models. This should help to offset the downturn at Rolls-Royce. Meanwhile, the Challenger tank has received impressive reviews concerning its performance in the Gulf war and should attract export orders. The group also hopes to win an order from Kuwait soon for medical incubators.

Ford Sellar Morris, the USM property developer, fell 9p to 30p after it announced it was in talks with its bankers about revising the terms of its borrowing facilities. FSM was forced to make the move after the disposal of several properties was delayed.

Telfos climbed 18p to 112p as speculation intensified that AEG Westinghouse of Germany was prepared to launch a bid of 150p a share. Jenbacher, an Austrian company, has said that it is prepared to buy a 30 per cent stake in Telfos.

MICHAEL CLARK

TEMPUS

Power sale fails to generate interest despite prospects

OVERSHADOWED by the Gulf war, the £2.16 billion sale of the two electricity generating companies has been the most low-key privatisation for years.

When the offer closes at 10am on Wednesday, many will regard it as a mere sideshow. That attitude has been reflected in the level of applications. To date, they number 62,000, close to a quarter of the volume received for the far larger sale of the regional electricity companies at the same stage.

Share incentives for the private investor are as attractive as ever, but the minimum investment of £525, with a minimum first instalment of £300, is a clear signal that these are not shares for the unsophisticated.

On February 20, when John Wakeham, the energy secretary, and his advisers decided the price of the issue, the FT-SE 100 closed at 2,296.8.

Since then, the ground war has been fought and won, base rates have fallen half a point to 13 per cent, and the FT-SE has risen 86.5 points, or almost 3.8 per cent.

But the premium allowed the 100p part-paid shares in the grey market made by IG Index, the City bookmaker, has scarcely altered. The premium on PowerGen yesterday stood at 22½p and on National Power at 21p.

The market apparently thinks that although shares generally have become more attractive, the outlook for the generating companies is little changed. That is wrong.

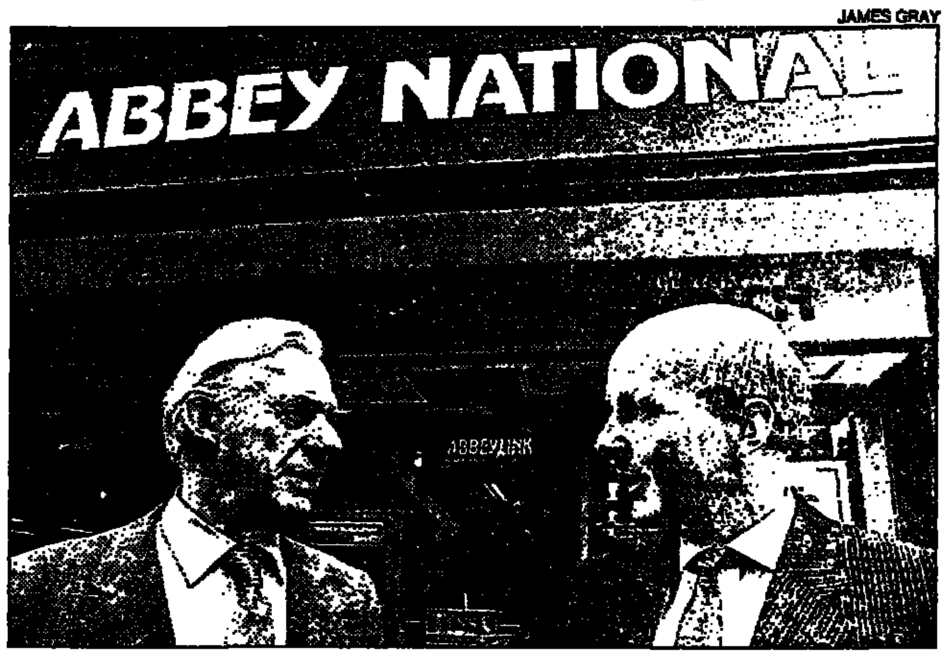
The disadvantages of the companies have been well rehearsed. The government is privatising a duopoly. Regulators may constrain growth in their core business, and will do everything to encourage newcomers. A 40 per cent stake in each company being retained by the government will overhang the market until at least 1993. Spending on environmental measures will be high.

On the other hand, cost savings, already provided for, should lift profits. From 1993, the companies will be able to cut energy bills by signing new contracts with British Coal, and increasing coal imports.

Now, British Gas has confirmed that shortages of gas will constrain the emergence of any significant number of low-cost competitors until at least 1995.

The initial dividend yield on the generators, at 6.3 per cent, is on a par with that for water shares, but the prospects for capital growth are much better. Although allocations, as ever, may be small, the shares look well worth tucking away. **Sale timetable, page 31**

JAMES GRAY



Rosy future: Sir Campbell Adamson, chairman, and Peter Birch (right) yesterday

Abbey National

PETER Birch, Abbey National's chief executive, has a right to look smug. Two years ago he steered the former building society through the unknown territory of a flotation. Now he is guiding it through the worst housing market since the Second World War, and is still likely to emerge smelling of roses.

Abbey's 16 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £582 million last year is a testimony to the security of mortgage assets. True, the company had to repossess 5,800 homes last year, and 39,000 of its borrowers are more than 90 days in arrears. But more than 1.2 million other borrowers are still paying their interest on time.

Abbey's small acquisitions were the only areas where it came unstuck. Cornerstone, the estate agency, lost £20 million, housing developments were £24 million in the red, while almost a third of the bad debt provisions of £55 million were against Abbey's minute unsecured loan book.

Mr Birch is adamant that Abbey will not use its strong reserves on an acquisition spree. He is also clear that the mortgage lender has no interest in corporate banking, and will remain committed to retail financial services. This puts life assurance high on his agenda. Abbey is likely to establish its own life company or form a joint venture with an assurer when its tie with Friends Provident expires next year.

Abbey has 3.7 million shareholders, the largest investment base of any company in Europe and probably the world. Their shares have risen 94 per cent to 252p since the flotation in July 1989.

The mortgage lender's bad debts have not peaked since the rise in unemployment will continue to swell the number of repossessions long after the economy starts to recover. Nevertheless, falling interest rates should give a further boost to Abbey's margins. This, coupled with strict cost control and an expanding asset book, should increase profits to £630 million this year, and allow an 11 per cent increase in the dividend to 10.5p. The shares, on a p/e ratio of eight and a yield of 5.6 per cent, reflect the bank's strength, but should certainly not be sold yet.

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UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
AETNA LIFE INSURANCE				
461, St John Street, London EC1V 4QE				
071-837 6494				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	14.81	15.59	+0.02	..
Bear	14.58	15.35	-0.03	..
Owl	14.80	15.58	+0.08	..
Bull	13.2	13.9	+0.1	..
Stag	13.36	14.06	+0.42	..
Gilt Edged	13.72		-0.04	..
Deposit	13.23		+0.02	..
Pensions				
Squirrel	18.84	19.83	+0.05	..
Bear	18.68	19.67	+0.42	..
Owl	19.59	20.64	+0.90	..
Bull	16.31	17.17	+0.64	..
Stag	15.57	16.39	+0.49	..
Gilt Edged	15.94		-0.04	..
Deposit	18.93		+0.03	..
Exempt App Mixed	172.8	183.5	+8.57	..
ABBEY LIFE				
80, Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL				
0202 292373				
Property Fund Inc	268.7	282.8	-0.1	..
Do Accum	436.6	458.8	-0.1	..
Equity Fund Income	126.7	133.4	+4.1	..
Do Accum	151.1	159.1	+4.8	..
Selective Fund	349.5	367.9	+4.7	..
Money Fund	302.5	318.5	+0.6	..
Prop Fd Ser 4	345.3	363.5	-0.1	..
Equity Ser 4	153.0	161.1	+5.1	..
Man Ser 4	446.6	470.2	+8.8	..
Conv Ser 4	268.2	282.4	+0.5	..
Money Ser 4	268.0	282.2	+0.5	..
Fixed Int Fd Ser 4	254.1	267.5	-1.0	..
American Ser 4	296.8	312.5	+9.3	..
High Inc Ser 4	471.1	495.9	+7.7	..
Indexed Inv Ser 4	154.5	162.7	-0.8	..
Japan Ser 4	283.7	298.7	+8.7	..
ALBANY LIFE				
3, Darkes Lane, Potters Bar				
0707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£10.99	11.57	+0.11	..
European Fd Accum	254.4	267.7	+4.2	..
Fixed Int Acc	384.8	405.0	-1.5	..
Gtd Money Fd Acc	274.5	288.9	+0.4	..
Intl Man Fd Acc	393.0	413.6	+8.6	..
Int Fxd Int Fd Acc	224.9	236.7	+0.7	..
Japan Fund	257.3	270.8	+9.2	..
Nth American Fd Acc	210.4	221.4	+8.9	..
Prop Fd Acc	335.3	352.9	+0.3	..
Multiple Inv Acc	732.7	771.2	+9.1	..
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE				
Swindon SN1 1EL				
0793-514514				
Fixed Int Dep Accum	307.2	323.4	+0.4	..
Equity Accum	947.8	997.5	+27.4	..
Property Accum	502.5	528.9	..	..
Far East Accum	186.0	195.8	+5.5	..
Managed Capital	402.0	423.2	+11.2	..
Do Accum	744.4	783.6	+18.2	..
Overseas Accum	665.3	700.4	+23.9	..
Gilt Edged Accum	347.8	366.2	+1.5	..
Amer Equity Accum	475.4	500.5	+12.8	..
Amer Man Accum	213.1	224.4	+6.2	..
Amer Prop Accum	111.4	117.3	+1.7	..
ASTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
10 Queens Terrl Aberdeen AB9 1QJ				
Freephone 0800 833 580				
International	195.1	205.3	-4.98	..
High Income	189.2	199.2	..	..
Income & Growth	284.0	299.0	+2.11	..
Basic Resources	124.8	131.4	+1.04	..
American	172.3	181.4	+2.52	..
Japan & General	387.6	408.0	+6.84	..
Special Situations	230.1	242.2	+2.82	..
BARCLAYS LIFE				
252, Romford Rd, London E7 9JB				
081-534 5544				
Equity Accum	580.8	611.4	+11.9	..
Do Initial	427.3	449.8	..	..
Gilt Edged Accum	268.0	282.2	-1.6	..
Do Initial	205.6	216.7	..	..
International Accum	262.5	276.5	+6.6	..
Do Initial	195.9	206.3	..	..
Managed Accum	368.7	388.0	+6.6	..
Do Initial	277.4	292.0	+4.9	..
Money Accum	239.4	252.1	+0.3	..
Do Initial	175.9	185.2	+0.1	..
Property Accum	273.2	288.3	-0.2	..
Do Initial	205.5	216.4	..	..
America Accum	164.4	173.1	+4.9	..
Do Initial	126.3	133.0	+3.8	..
Australia Accum	128.5	135.3	+3.8	..
Do Initial	98.8	104.1	+2.9	..
Financial Accum	225.9	237.8	+3.8	..
Do Initial	173.5	182.7	+2.9	..
800 Accum	289.8	305.1	+8.1	..
Do Initial	219.5	231.1	+6.2	..
Japan &Gen Acc 2	305.4	321.5	+11.6	..
Do Initial 2	229.9	242.0	+8.8	..
Income Accum	362.0	381.1	+8.8	..
Do Initial	276.8	291.4	+6.6	..
Leisure Accum	151.2	159.8	+3.9	..
Special Sits Accum	142.5	150.0	+4.8	..
Univ Tech Accum	96.8	101.9	+2.4	..
Do Initial	76.0	80.1	+1.8	..
BLACK HORSE LIFE				
Mountbatten House Chatham Kent ME4 4JF				
0634 834000				
The Managed Fund	542.87		+7.11	..
Income Fund	545.0	573.6	+5.65	..
Extra Income Fund	490.3	515.9	-3.67	..
Worldwide Growth Fd	334.5	352.1	+3.68	..
Balanced Fund	457.6	481.7	+4.51	..
Smlr Co's & Rc Fd	424.6	447.0	+8.39	..
Int Technology Fund	325.0	342.1	+5.78	..
N Amer & Gen Fund	255.4	268.4	+2.29	..
Energy Intl Fund	117.7	123.9	+2.16	..
Pacific Basin Fund	260.7	274.4	+3.91	..
German Growth Fd	162.6	171.1	-0.14	..
Japan Growth Fd	145.4	153.1	+1.70	..
The Uk Gth Fd	149.5	157.4	+1.05	..
Contl Eurn Gth	84.29	88.73	+0.53	..
Property Fund	305.7	321.8	+0.99	..
Fixed Interest Fund	231.2	243.3	-0.95	..
Cash Fund	234.8	247.2	+0.31	..
Managed Inv Fund	339.4	358.2	+4.53	..
Nth Amer Recov	135.3	148.2	+2.53	..
Mutual Fund				
Managed Growth	288.6	303.8	+3.91	..
Managed Income	125.4	132.0	..	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
CANADA LIFE				
2-6, High St, Potters Bar, Herts				
P Bar 51122				
Equity Growth	171.5		..	..
Managed	227.9	240.0	+3.0	..
Property	176.2	185.5	+0.4	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	171.5	180.6	-0.3	..
Index-Linked	147.4	155.2	-1.5	..
Equity	250.5	263.7	+3.5	..
Cash	183.9	193.7	+1.6	..
Midland Bk UT	238.2	250.8	+2.7	..
Midland Bk Int	240.7	253.4	+4.5	..
CANNON ASSURANCE				
1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB				
081-902 8876				
Capital Gth Acc	91.5	96.6	+3.4	..
Equity Units	338.22		+7.40	..
Property Units	228.44		..	..
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£45.57	48.22	+0.71	..
2nd Equity Accum	468.0	492.5	+8.7	..
2nd High Inc/Accum	451.7	475.0	+5.8	..
2nd Property Accum	261.5	276.7	..	..
2nd Managed 2 Acc	136.4	144.3	+0.3	..
2nd Managed Acc	321.5	340.2	+4.9	..
2nd Managed 4 Acc	149.3	159.0	+3.5	..
2nd Deposit Accum	233.9	247.5	..	..
2nd Gilt Accum	218.7	231.4	-0.1	..
2nd Amer Accum	323.6	342.4	+10.1	..
2nd Intl Money Ac	198.4	209.9	..	..
2nd Index Accum	142.4	150.7	-0.2	..
2nd Far East Accum	299.7	317.1	+11.5	..
2nd Global Accum	98.0	103.7	+3.1	..
2nd Euro Accum	117.3	124.1	+1.5	..
2nd Japan Accum	169.7	179.5	+6.5	..
2nd Heritage Acc	71.9	76.1	..	..
2nd Intl Corr Bond	108.8	115.1	..	..
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE				
Sentry House, 500, Avebury Blvd,				
Cntl Milton Keynes MK9 2LA				
0908-606101				
Property Fund	207.2	218.1	-4.5	..
Money Fund	310.2	326.6	+0.6	..
Managed Fund	414.5	436.4	+5.8	..
Equity Fund	234.8	247.2	+7.2	..
Fixed Interest Fund	168.1	177.0	+1.2	..
Far East Fund	355.6	374.4	+9.4	..
Nth Amer Fund	99.0	104.3	+4.3	..
Nat Resources Fund	220.0	231.6	+4.8	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INTERNATIONAL				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH				
0272 290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	195.5	205.8	+4.7	..
Ruby	182.7	192.2	+3.0	..
Emerald	110.4	116.3	-0.1	..
Equity	231.5	243.7	+6.8	..
Property	183.1	192.8	-0.1	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	149.4	157.3	-0.7	..
Indexed Secs	127.7	134.5	-0.5	..
Cash	153.0	161.1	+0.3	..
Nth American	127.9	133.7	+4.2	..
Far East	182.2	191.8	+4.9	..
International	146.3	154.0	+4.2	..
Special Sits	193.5	203.8	+7.5	..
Intl Income	203.9	214.6	+4.9	..
American Inc	112.5	118.5	+2.9	..
European	215.8	227.2	+3.4	..
Japanese	114.9	121.0	+4.7	..
SE Asia	165.0	173.7	+2.9	..
Home Inv WP Reg	121.4	127.7	+0.2	..
Home Inv WP Spec	121.4	127.7	+0.2	..
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	200.2	210.8	+4.4	..
Equity	241.1	253.8	+7.0	..
Property	157.4	165.7	..	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	166.8	175.6	-0.1	..
Index Linked	137.1	144.4	-0.3	..
Cash	189.6	199.6	+8.4	..
Nth American	147.2	155.0	+5.0	..
Far East Acc	209.7	220.8	+7.2	..
International Acc	176.7	186.1	+5.2	..
Special Sits	261.6	275.4	+8.9	..
European Flex	268.7	282.9	+4.8	..
COLONIAL MUTUAL				
24 Ludgate Hill, London EC4P 4BD				
071-248 9861				
CML U AssKey	174.98		..	..
CML U AssPacesetr	222.08		..	..
CML U AssCash	171.3	180.3	+0.30	..
CML U AssEquity	391.3	411.9	+2.53	..
CML U AssFI	245.4	258.3	-0.97	..
CML U AssMngd	287.3	302.4	+1.31	..
CML U AssProp	293.7	309.1	+0.24	..
CML(Pen)Cash Cap	182.1	191.7	..	..
CML(Pen)Cash Inv	233.5	245.8	..	..
CML(Pen)Eqty Cap	£10.60	11.16	..	..
CML(Pen)Eqty Inv	£13.60	14.31	..	..
CML(Pen)Fixd Cap	275.9	290.4	..	..
CML(Pen)Fixd Inv	353.7	372.3	..	..
CML(Pen)Indx Cap	172.0	181.1	..	..
CML(Pen)Indx Inv	220.5	232.2	..	..
CML(Pen)Man Cap	428.4	450.9	..	..
CML(Pen)Man Inv	549.2	578.1	..	..
COMMERCIAL UNION				
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3				
071-283 7500				
Var Ann Accum (5)	440.09		..	..
Var Ann (5)	77.12		..	..
Prime- Managed	268.1	282.3	+5.8	..
Prime- UK Equity	328.4	345.7	+10.8	..
Prime- Int Equity	185.2	195.0	+5.8	..
Prime- Property	180.5	190.1	-3.2	..
Prime- Fixed Interest	170.1	179.1	+0.1	..
Prime- Index-Linked	131.5	138.5	-0.8	..
Prime- Cash	169.1	178.1	+0.2	..
CONFEDERATION LIFE				
50 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1HE				
071-242 0282				
Managed Fund	785.9	827.2	..	..
Equity Fund	£11.09	11.68	..	..
PIP Fund	£34.56			
CROWN FINANCIAL				
Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW				
04862 5033				
Life Managed Acc	410.2	431.7	+10.7	..
Life Fixed Int Accum	269.4	283.5	-0.8	..
Life Equity Accum	565.3	595.0	+18.2	..
Life Money Accum	248.5	261.6	+0.4	..
Life Inv Trust Accum	501.4	527.7	+11.7	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Life Intl Accum	346.5	364.7	+10.9	..
Life High Inc Accum	527.4	555.1	+21.6	..
Life Property Accum	217.1	228.5	+0.2	..
Crown Brit Inv A	808.7	869.0	..	..
Brewin Equity	456.4	480.4	..	..
DBS Managed	236.3	248.7	..	..
Growth Accum	281.0	295.7	..	..
CRUSADER INSURANCE				
Reigate Surrey RH2 8BL				
07372 42424				
Measured perf	105.7	111.8	+1.2	..
Performance Plus	101.7	107.8	+1.1	..
With Profit Perf	132.4	140.1	..	..
UK Opportunity	131.9	139.5	+1.0	..
Euro Opportunity	128.5	136.0	+0.9	..
North Amer Opp	80.8	85.5	+3.2	..
Far East Opp	113.0	119.5	+1.2	..
Gth Prop Series 1	173.5	182.6	..	..
Gth Prop Series 2	151.4	160.2	+0.2	..
Fixed Int	123.6	130.8	+2.1	..
Cash	130.5	138.1	+0.3	..
Managed Pens	383.4	397.2	..	..
Overseas	107.8	114.1	+2.0	..
EAGLE STAR INSURANCE				
Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ				
0242 221311				
Secure Fund	144.2	151.8	+0.2	..
Blue Chip Fund	168.8	177.7	+2.8	..
Do Series 2	106.1	111.7	+1.6	..
Adventurous Fund	142.8	150.4	+3.9	..
Do Series 2	104.2	109.7	+2.9	..
Performance Fund	166.0	174.8	+4.4	..
Do Series 2	104.6	110.2	+2.8	..
UK Prof Fxd Int	101.8	107.2	-0.2	..
UK Equity Fund	99.5	104.9	+2.4	..
Property Fund	97.5	102.8	-0.1	..
Emerald Opps	100.3	105.6	+2.1	..
Euro Fund	97.8	103.0	+1.9	..
North Amer Fund	108.8	114.6	+3.6	..
Oriental Ops	105.9	111.5	+2.1	..
Japanese Fund	101.9	107.3	+2.9	..
Bd & West Life			..	..
Bd & West Pen	100.1	105.4	+0.3	..
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND				
1 Threadneedle St, London EC2				
01-588 1212				
Eagle/Midland Units	190.6	197.5	+4.2	4.84
EQUITY & LAW				
Amersham Road, High Wycombe				
0494 463485				
Reserve			..	..
Balcd (Mxd)	483.0	508.4	+3.0	..
Opportunity	107.0	112.6	+2.8	..
UK Equities	665.5	700.5	+4.6	..
Higher Inc	674.4	709.8	+4.8	..
North Amer	241.2	253.9	+7.7	..
Far East	347.4	365.6	+8.0	..
Europe	276.2	290.7	+2.1	..
Intnl	349.2	367.5	+6.8	..
Property	446.5	470.0	+2.4	..
Fixed Int	298.3	314.0	-1.4	..
Ind-Lnkd Sec	138.2	145.4	-0.8	..
G'teed Depst	241.8	254.5	+3.8	..
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SW				
0722 413366				
Managed (Mixed)	203.6	214.4	+2.5	..
UK Equity	264.1	278.1	+3.9	..
Stewardship	221.8	233.5	+4.0	..
Overseas Equity	181.8	191.4	+4.2	..
North American	94.0	99.0	+2.2	..
Pacific Basin	96.7	101.8	+2.6	..
European	136.2	143.4	+2.5	..
Property	192.3	202.5	-1.8	..
Fixed Interest	150.4	158.4	-0.7	..
Index Linked	123.0	129.5	-0.7	..
Cash	162.8	171.4	+0.2	..
GT MANAGEMENT				
8th Floor 8 Devonshire Square London EC2M 4YJ				
071-283 2575				
GT Plan Bond Fund	182.6	192.3	..	..
GT Plan High Yield	274.7	289.2	..	..
GT Plan Far East	246.5	259.5	+8.7	..
GT Plan North Amer	149.7	157.6	..	..
GT Plan UK & Gilt	369.3	388.8	..	..
GT Plan Worldwide	271.8	285.9	+4.4	..
GENERAL ACCIDENT				
2, Rougier Street, York YO1 1HR				
0904 628982				
Managed	143.3	150.7	+2.9	..
Unitised with Profit				
UK Equity	191.9	201.9	+6.0	..
Fixed Int	145.8	153.5	-0.4	..
Index-Linked	125.3	131.8	-0.4	..
Cash Deposit	145.0	152.6	+0.3	..
Property	164.2	172.7	-0.3	..
International	128.7	135.4	+3.8	..
American	108.1	113.7	+4.0	..
Japan	188.9	198.6	+8.2	..
Japan Smlr Co's	192.9	202.9	+6.7	..
European	128.9	135.6	+1.6	..
Pacific Fund	127.0	133.6	+2.2	..
Conv Life	105.7	111.1	+2.1	..
GENERAL PORTFOLIO LIFE				
General Portfolio Hse, Harlow Essex CM20 2EW				
0279 626262				
Portfolio Fd Acc	508.6		+8.3	..
Do Init	312.2		+5.0	..
Do Inv a	506.5	533.9	+8.5	..
UK Equity	277.2	291.9	+5.7	..
Smaller Cos	156.7	165.1	+4.2	..
Gilt Plus	154.0	162.2	-0.7	..
Do 89	142.7	150.3	..	..
Managed	216.1	227.6	+8.8	..
Inter Man	189.4	199.5	+3.3	..
GRESHAM UNIT				
2-8, Prince of Wales Road, Bournemouth				
0202 752000				
Managed Bond	508.4	535.7	+8.2	..
Money Fund	261.5	275.4	+0.5	..
Equity Fund	450.2	474.4	+10.0	..
Fixed Interest Fund	199.9	210.5	+0.4	..
Property Fund	305.7	322.1	-1.8	..
Gresham Fundington				
American & General	300.5	316.5	+15.8	..
Income	517.8	545.6	+25.3	..
International Grwth	353.1	372.1	+12.3	..
Capital Fund	418.9	441.4	+18.5	..
Recovery Fund	345.3	363.9	+8.9	..
Japan & General	227.8	240.0	+5.4	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE				
Royal Exchange London EC3				
071-283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	680.1	708.4	-5.2	..
Managed Initial	347.5	365.7	+10.8	..
Do Accum	455.2	479.2	+14.2	..
Equity Initial	534.6	562.7	+18.4	..
Do Accum	700.4	737.3	+24.4	..
Fixed Int Initial	311.5	327.9	-3.0	..
Do Accum	408.1	429.6	-3.8	..
Intl Initial	315.3	331.9	+10.1	..
Do Accum	413.1	434.8	+13.3	..
Nth Amer Initial	113.6	119.6	+4.9	..
Do Accum	135.5	142.6	+5.9	..
Pacific Initial	185.3	195.1	+5.8	..
Do Accum	218.9	230.4	+7.0	..
Property Initial	175.3	184.5	-4.9	..
Do Accum	229.7	241.8	-6.5	..
Index-Linked Initial	130.6	137.5	-0.2	..
Do Accum	155.9	164.1	-0.1	..
Deposit Initial	173.8	183.0	+0.3	..
Do Accum	227.7	239.7	+0.4	..
Euro Initial	75.7	79.7	+1.5	..
Do Accum	83.4	87.8	+1.7	..
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE				
41 Tower Hill London EC3N 4HA				
071-702 9861				
Managed	117.5	123.9	+1.1	..
Do Pens	128.9	135.8	+1.4	..
UK Equity	108.5	114.2	+2.2	..
Do Pens	112.9	118.8	+2.4	..
International	96.2	101.2	+1.2	..
Do Pens	96.4	101.4	+1.3	..
Deposit	116.8	122.9	+0.2	..
Do Pens	129.1	135.8	+0.2	..
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION				
3, Finsbury Ave London EC2M 2PA				
071-638 5757				
UK Equity Inc	306.8	323.5	+3.6	..
UK Capital Gth	283.1	298.8	+1.0	..
Global Equity	293.2	309.5	+4.3	..
North America Fund	222.2	234.8	+5.7	..
Far East Fund	353.0	372.6	+7.3	..
Managed Fund	309.3	326.5	+2.1	..
Deposit Fund	187.4	197.3	+0.2	..
Prime Residential	138.2	145.5	-0.3	..
European Fund	185.8	196.1	+1.8	..
Property Share Fd	120.2	126.5	..	..
HILL SAMUEL LIFE				
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon				
081-686 4355				
Security Fund	354.4	375.1	+4.9	..
British Fund	366.9	388.3	+5.2	..
International Fund	331.7	351.1	+3.0	..
Dollar Fund	235.4	249.2	+2.8	..
Capital Fund	327.4	346.5	+4.1	..
Income Fund	478.1	506.0	+7.0	..
Property Series 'A'	371.4	393.1	..	..
Property Units	514.5	545.3	..	..
Financial Fund	342.5	362.8	+8.5	..
Managed Series 'A'	379.3	401.4	+3.4	..
Do 'C'	235.5	249.3	+1.9	..
Managed Units	671.5	706.9	+5.9	..
High Yield Fund	468.1	493.3	+9.1	..
Money Series 'A'	232.4	246.0	-0.9	..
Money Units	302.5	318.5	-1.0	..
Equity Fund	428.4	451.3	+5.9	..
Fixed Interest Fund	255.2	270.1	-0.2	..
Indexed Secs Fund	138.8	146.9	-1.2	..
European Fund	510.5	540.3	+8.8	..
Natural Res Fund	195.6	207.0	+3.1	..
Far East Fund	404.8	428.4	+11.2	..
Smaller Co's Fund	311.1	329.3	+3.7	..
Special Sits Fund	335.2	354.8	+3.9	..
Man Currency Fund	203.0	214.9	+0.9	..
Japanese Tech	218.6	231.4	+5.4	..
US Smaller Co's	108.3	114.7	+1.7	..
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE				
Irish Life Centre Victoria St, St Albans Hertfordshire AL1 3TF				
0727 46161				
Global Managed 3	397.2	418.1	+4.5	..
Global Property 3	251.8	265.0	..	..
Global Fixed Int 3	369.5	389.1	-1.2	..
Global Equity 3	448.5	472.1	+8.7	..
Global Cash 3	175.5	184.7	+0.3	..
LAS GROUP				
10, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2YH				
031-225 6494				
Managed Fund	330.4	347.8	+5.3	..
UK Equity	400.8	421.9	+7.9	..
Property	270.2	284.5	+0.7	..
Money Market	208.1	219.1	+0.4	..
Fixed Interest	239.8	252.8	-1.0	..
Japan	289.8	305.1	+6.9	..
North America	102.8	108.0	+4.0	..
International	189.2	199.4	..	..
European	178.7	188.0	+3.8	..
Far East	79.2	83.4	+2.4	..
Special Sits	73.7	77.6	+2.8	..
LAURENTIAN LIFE				
Barnwood Gloucester GL4 7RZ				
0452 371371				
Managed	299.2	314.9	+6.5	..
Gtd Mgd	381.4	401.5	-0.6	..
Property	468.0	492.6	-5.3	..
American	262.6	276.4	+9.5	..
UK Equity Fd	319.5	336.4	+9.2	..
Japan	160.5	168.9	+8.2	..
Index-Lkd	144.8	152.4	-0.3	..
High Yield	595.6	627.0	+14.5	..
Gilt Edged	324.0	341.1	+0.3	..
Money	329.9	347.3	+0.5	..
International	272.4	286.7	+7.4	..
Henderson Active	146.0	153.7	+1.0	..
Perpetual Active	182.1	191.7	+3.6	..
Growth Cap	339.2	358.0	..	..
Do Acc	461.3	485.6	+9.8	..
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE				
2, Montefiore Rd, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE				
0273 724566				
Bldg Soc Lnkd Init	125.0	131.6	+0.1	..
Do Accum	152.8	160.9	+0.2	..
Brit Opps Int	102.0	107.4	+3.3	..
Do Accum	112.8	118.8	+3.6	..
Cash Initial	153.9	162.0	+0.2	..
Do Accum	236.1	248.6	+0.4	..
Equity Initial	495.5	521.6	+10.8	..
Do Accum	780.1	808.2	+16.8	..
Fixed Initial	271.9	286.3	-0.4	..
Do Accum	417.2	439.2	-0.6	..
Index-Linked Gilt	111.8	117.7	-0.8	..
Do Accum	146.4	154.2	-0.9	..
Intl Initial	245.6	258.6	+5.1	..
Do Accum	370.9	390.5	+7.8	..
Managed Initial	357.8	376.7	+5.5	..
Do Accum	549.9	577.8	+8.6	..
Property Initial	191.7	201.8	+0.3	..
Do Accum	294.0	309.5	+0.3	..
LEGAL & GENERAL PROPERTY				
11, Queen Vic St London EC4N 4TP				
071-248 9678				
L & G (29)	300.0	310.5	..	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
LONDON LIFE				
100, Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA				
0272 279179				
Equity	862.5		+8.3	..
Fixed Interest	285.6		-1.5	..
Property	359.1		+0.9	..
Deposit	238.1		+0.6	..
Mixed	426.4		+2.2	..
Indexed Stock	156.6		-1.2	..
International	192.6		-0.2	..
Equity A	152.3		+1.5	..
Fixed Int A	127.5		-0.7	..
Property A	158.7		+0.3	..
Deposit A	140.7		+0.3	..
Mixed A	141.0		+0.8	..
Index Stock A	125.0		-1.0	..
International A	121.0		-0.2	..
Equity P	505.7		+5.5	..
Fixed Int P	359.7		-1.3	..
Property P	275.8		+0.5	..
Deposit P	262.9		+0.6	..
Mixed P	367.4		+2.1	..
Index Stock P	180.4		-1.4	..
International P	208.7		-0.4	..
LON & MANCHESTER GROUP				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS				
0392 52155				
Inv Trust Cap	430.7		+5.7	..
Do Accum	611.1		+8.5	..
Property Cap	182.2		-0.1	..
Do Accum	252.6		+0.1	..
Fixed Interest Cap	168.9		-0.4	..
Do Accum	233.0		-0.4	..
Equity Cap	258.7		+3.5	..
Do Accum	357.0		+5.2	..
International Cap	186.8		+2.1	..
Do Accum	258.0		+3.1	..
Gtd Deposit Cap	164.6		+0.1	..
Do Accum	225.5		+0.3	..
Flexible Cap	288.1		+2.9	..
Do Accum	400.4		+4.3	..
Moneymaker Fund	324.2		+8.3	..
Capital Growth Fund	£11.085		+0.15	..
M & G				
Three Quays, Tower Hill EC3R 6BQ				
071-626 4588				
Amer Bond Acc	261.6	274.8	+8.9	..
Amer Rec Bond	268.1	288.0	+11.1	..
Amer Smlr Co Bond	119.2	125.3	+4.7	..
Australasia Bond	114.3	120.1	+3.9	..
Commodity Bond	176.1	185.0	+4.6	..
Deposit Bond Acc	298.0	313.0	+0.5	..
Equity Bond Accum	919.4	965.5	+8.0	..
European Bond Acc	245.1	257.5	+0.2	..
Extra Yld Bd Accum	483.9	508.2	+8.2	..
Far East Bd Accum	161.7	169.9	+4.7	..
Gilt Bond Accum	314.1	329.9	-1.5	..
Gold Bond Accum	73.2	76.9	+2.4	..
High Yield Bond	274.8	288.7c	+0.4	7.56
Index-Linked Gt Bd	161.0	169.1	-1.0	..
International Bond	472.3	496.1	+6.4	..
Japan Bond Acc	230.7	242.4	+5.7	..
Japan Smlr Co Acc	190.9	200.5	+5.9	..
Managed Bonds	548.6	576.2	+8.5	..
Prop Bond Accum	297.3	314.6	-16.4	..
Rec Bond Accum	481.5	505.7	+8.5	..
MGM ASSURANCE				
MGM Hse Heene Rd, Worthing BN11 2DY				
0903 204631				
UK Equity Fund	190.7	200.8	+3.8	..
Do Accum	238.0	250.6	+4.9	..
Special Sits Fund	105.0	110.5	+0.7	..
Do Accum	131.1	138.0	+0.8	..
North American Fd	131.6	138.5	+3.3	..
Do Accum	164.1	172.8	+4.1	..
Pacific Basin Fund	270.4	284.7	+7.5	..
Do Accum	337.5	355.3	+9.8	..
Fixed Interest Fund	230.7	242.9	-0.1	..
Do Accum	288.3	303.5	..	..
Property Fund	165.5	174.3	-1.3	..
Do Accum	206.8	217.7	-1.8	..
Deposit Fund	134.7	141.8	+0.2	..
Do Accum	168.9	177.8	+0.3	..
Managed Fund	203.5	214.3	+3.2	..
Do Accum	241.3	254.0	+3.7	..
MANUFACTURERS LIFE				
St Georges Way, Stevenage				
0438 356101				
Managed Fund	497.4	523.6	..	..
Property Fund	457.7	482.3	..	..
Equity Fund	607.2	639.2	..	..
Gilt Edged Fund	436.9	459.8	..	..
Deposit Fund	271.4	285.7	..	..
Investment Fund	260.0	272.9	..	..
International Fund	362.2	381.3	..	..
MERCHANT INVESTORS				
Leon House, 233 High St Croydon				
081-686 9171				
Property	490.7	516.5	-3.2	..
Equity Bond	233.1	245.3	+2.8	..
Money Market Bond	398.7	419.6	-1.5	..
Deposit Fund	307.5	323.6	+0.4	..
Managed Fund	349.4	367.7	+4.8	..
Intl Equity	359.9	378.8	+7.4	..
Intl Managed	349.0	367.3	+5.5	..
North American	138.4	145.6	+4.2	..
Far East	250.0	263.1	+6.8	..
Intl Currency	207.2	218.1	+1.0	..
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS				
Enterprise Hse, Portsmouth				
0705 827733				
Equity	106.2	111.7	+3.2	..
Fixed Interest	393.6	414.3	-1.4	..
Managed	534.2	562.3	+0.5	..
Deposit	276.5	291.1	+0.3	..
Overseas	227.4	239.3	+3.9	..
Property	354.0	372.6	-0.8	..
American	277.2	291.7	+10.6	..
Australian	278.7	293.3	+6.7	..
European	388.4	408.8	+0.4	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	206.3	217.1	+0.3	..
Global Managed	105.2	110.7	+1.0	..
Income Accum	581.7	612.3	+13.0	..
Do Dist	393.7	414.4⊕	+11.8	..
International	230.4	242.5	+6.4	..
Japan Smaller	500.3	526.6	+15.1	..
Singapore & Mal	182.0	191.5	+5.7	..
Smaller Companies	325.5	342.7	+15.0	..
Tokyo Fund	511.0	537.8	+15.2	..
UK Equity	433.2	456.0	+8.0	..
CCM Vang'd Mgd	518.3	545.5	+8.6	..
Equity Pension Cap	694.0	730.5	+20.5	..
Overseas Pension	263.2	277.0	+5.7	..
NATIONAL PROVIDENT				
48, Gracechurch St, EC3P 3HH				
071-623 4200				
Managed	332.9	350.5	+7.2	..
UK Equity	421.8	444.1	+12.6	..
Overseas Equity	318.7	335.5	+7.8	..
American	247.7	260.8	+4.2	..
Far East	336.4	354.2	+12.5	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Property	193.4	203.6	-0.7	..
Fixed Interest	254.3	267.7	-0.5	..
Indexed Gilt	150.5	158.5	-0.2	..
Deposit	177.3	186.7	+0.4	..
NORWICH UNION				
PO Box 4, Norwich NR1 3NG				
0603 622200				
Managed Fund	962.6	1013.5	+15.8	..
Equity Fund	£20.41	21.49	+0.46	..
Property Fund (3)	531.1	559.1	-12.6	..
Fixed Int Fund (3)	433.0	455.8	-1.4	..
Deposit Fund (3)	279.8	294.5	+0.4	..
Unit Fund (3)	153.3	161.4	+3.9	..
Unit-Linked Plus	981.39		..	..
PEARL ASSURANCE				
Pearl Assurance Hse, Thorpe Wood Peterborough PE3 6SA				
0733 63212				
Inv Prop Dist	146.9	154.7	-3.3	..
Do Accum	265.8	279.8	-6.0	..
Inv Equity	803.5	845.8	+16.0	..
Inv Managed	560.3	589.8	+8.4	..
Ret Managed	603.0	634.8	+9.6	..
PHOENIX ASSURANCE				
4-5, King William St, EC4N 7ER				
071-626 9876				
Wealth Assured	435.6	458.6	+4.2	..
Ebor Phoenix Equity	356.1	378.9	..	..
PROLIFIC LIFE & PENSIONS LTD				
Bridge Mills Stramongate Kendal, Cumbria LA9 4UB				
0539 733733				
Managed Fund	537.3	571.7	+14.9	..
Cash Fund	275.3	290.1	..	..
Property Fund	220.0	234.1	..	..
Equity Fund	626.2	658.9	+18.4	..
Fxd Interest Fund	304.8	321.2	+1.2	..
International	296.4	312.4	+8.8	..
High Income	458.1	487.4	+18.0	..
Far East	370.5	390.6	+12.9	..
North American	242.5	255.6	+6.5	..
Special Sits	504.4	538.7	+14.9	..
Technology	246.6	259.9	+6.5	..
Extra Income Fund	269.5	283.9	+10.2	..
Gilt Fund 20	348.8	368.0	-1.5	..
European	100.2	105.6	+2.8	..
Adventurous Mgd	121.6	129.6	+3.4	..
Secure Mgd	99.9	105.3	+1.8	..
Equity Inc Dist	91.6	96.6	+2.3	..
Managed Dist	88.7	93.5	+1.9	..
PROPERTY GROWTH				
Leon House, Croydon CR9 1LU				
081-680 0606				
Property Fund	436.3		-6.8	..
Property Fund (A)	412.9		-6.5	..
Agricultural Fund	633.2		-0.4	..
Agric Fund (A)	608.4		-0.3	..
Abbey Nat Fund	340.6		-2.4	..
Abbey Nat Fund (A)	365.4		-2.6	..
Investment Fund	237.7		+4.4	..
Investment Fund (A)	229.4		+4.2	..
Equity Fund	900.3		+20.1	..
Equity (A)	889.0		+19.4	..
Money Fund	378.6		+0.7	..
Money Fund (A)	364.9		+0.7	..
Actuarial Fund	409.8		+6.7	..
Gilt-Edged Fund	280.3		-0.8	..
Gilt-Edged Fund (A)	280.3		-0.8	..
Retire Annuity	883.5		..	..
Immed Annuity	290.5		..	..
International Fund	427.8		+8.2	..
Bldg Soc Life Fund	185.5		+0.4	..
PROVIDENCE CAPITAL				
30, Uxbridge Rd, W12 8PG				
081-749 9111				
Equity Fund Accum	218.8	229.7	+6.9	..
Fixed Interest Acc	168.3	177.5	+0.1	..
International Accum	163.8	172.8	+3.5	..
Managed Accum	168.9	178.0	+3.4	..
Property Accum	225.3	237.7	-1.1	..
Money Accum	126.2	133.2	+0.2	..
Special Mkt Accum	126.8	133.8	+3.2	..
Japan Equity Acc	101.0	106.6	+4.0	..
N Amer Accum	94.5	99.7	+2.7	..
Pacific Accum	84.9	89.6	+2.6	..
Technology Accum	104.0	109.8	+2.2	..
Natural Res Accum	49.4	52.2	+1.7	..
European Accum	96.9	102.3	+1.2	..
PROVIDENT MUTUAL				
25/31, Moorgate London EC2R 6BA				
071-628 3232				
Managed Ord	339.1	356.9	+8.7	..
Managed Initial	258.3	271.9	+5.6	..
Equity Ord	503.0	529.5	+12.7	..
Equity Init	383.1	403.3	+8.4	..
Index-Lnkd Gilt Ord	152.3	160.3	-1.1	..
Index Linked Gilt Init	121.2	127.6	-0.8	..
Overs Equity Ord	259.7	273.4	+7.9	..
Overs Equity Initial	197.8	208.2	+6.0	..
Property Ord	216.7	228.1	+0.2	..
Property Initial	165.0	173.7	..	..
Fixed Int Ord	199.7	210.2	-0.2	..
Fixed Int Initial	152.1	160.1	-0.2	..
Deposit Ord	169.1	178.0	+0.3	..
Deposit Initial	128.8	135.6	+0.1	..
PRUDENTIAL				
Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH				
071-405 9222				
Managed	236.8	249.6	+1.6	..
PRUDENTIAL HOLBORN LIFE LTD				
30 Old Burlington Street London W1X 1LB				
071-430 3134				
Managed Fund	517.4	544.7	+8.0	..
Equity Fund	£10.73	11.30	+0.19	..
Intl Fund	356.6	375.4	+9.4	..
Fixed Interest Fund	410.1	431.7	-1.6	..
Property Fund	367.9	387.3	-7.2	..
Cash Fund	299.7	315.5	+0.5	..
Pacific Basin Fd	200.9	211.5	+7.1	..
N American Fd	130.4	137.3	+4.9	..
Euro Fund	176.2	185.5	+2.4	..
Balanced Fund	107.8	113.5	+3.7	..
Strategic Fund	110.2	116.0	+4.8	..
REGENCY LIFE ASS CO				
53-57 High Holborn London WC1V 6DU				
071-831 7481				
Series 2 Man Fund	302.2	317.7	+6.5	..
Series 2 Equity Fund	386.6	406.1	+9.6	..
Series 2 Prop Fund	387.2	408.8	+1.1	..
Series 2 Fix Int Fund	230.7	244.2	+1.7	..
Series 2 Money Fd	205.0	219.0	+0.1	..
Series 2 O'seas Fd	211.6	224.9	+8.3	..
Tulip Invest Fund	301.4	317.3	+3.6	..
Tulip Mangd Fund	375.3	397.2	+7.9	..
Mngd Inv Fd Int	252.6	267.4	+6.5	..
Do Accum	307.1	325.0	+6.4	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE LTD				
20, Clifton Street, London EC2A 4HX				
071-920 0202 0733 262524				
Multi Growth (45)	457.99		..	..
Multi Growth 'A' (45)	457.9	482.1	..	..
Op 8 Prop	375.8	395.4	-0.1	..
Op 8 Equity	674.4	709.9	+8.7	..
Op 8 High Yield	403.4	424.7	-1.3	..
Op 8 Managed	527.0	554.8	+8.0	..
Op 8 Deposit	323.0	340.0	+0.8	13.59
Amer Smaller	95.8	100.8	+3.0	..
Extra Inc	138.3	145.6	+2.3	..
Far East	163.5	172.1	+3.8	..
Gold Gen	26.8	28.2	+0.6	..
Inc Gth	255.5	268.9	+5.0	..
Japan Perf	227.4	239.4	+6.1	..
Japan Smlr	183.5	193.2	+6.4	..
Natl High	219.7	231.3	+4.8	..
Prop Shs	132.1	139.1	+2.9	..
Smaller Cos	172.6	181.9	+7.1	..
Managed Gth	188.3	198.2	+3.7	..
Gilt	70.0	73.7	-0.3	..
Amer (35,34)	145.0	152.6	+3.7	..
British	245.3	258.2	+5.4	..
Extra Inc	186.8	196.6	+4.3	..
Intl Fixed Int	85.7	90.2	..	..
Global (35,34)	253.2	266.6	..	..
Gold Share	46.5	48.9	+1.7	..
High Income	243.4	256.2	+5.2	..
Income	325.7	342.8	+6.6	..
Japan	303.1	319.1	+9.0	..
UK Sel Opps	211.3	222.5	..	..
UK Smlr Co's	222.1	233.8	+9.4	..
Man Growth	307.8	324.0	+5.8	..
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE				
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS				
051-227 4422				
Royal Shield Fund	645.5	683.0	+13.8	..
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	262.5	276.3	+5.4	..
Equity Fund	369.8	389.2	+6.6	..
Property Fund	223.4	235.1	..	..
International Fund	311.1	327.4	+7.5	..
Pacific Basin Fund	186.5	196.3	+6.4	..
United States Fund	128.6	135.4	+4.9	..
Gilt Fund	252.6	265.8	-0.9	..
SAVE & PROSPER				
1, Finsbury Ave London EC2M 2QY				
0708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	537.8	569.2	+8.3	..
Deposit Fund (2)	301.6	319.2	+0.5	..
Gilt Fund	360.1	381.1	-1.0	..
Global Equity Fund	162.4	171.9	+2.9	..
Property Fund (46)	79.7	84.4■	+0.2	..
AG Bond Fund	117.8	124.7	+0.7	..
SCOTTISH AMICABLE				
150 St Vincent St, Glasgow				
041-248 2323				
Equity	432.8	455.6	+15.3	..
Fixed Interest	251.9	265.2	-0.8	..
Index-Linked	149.3	157.2	+1.9	..
International	282.7	297.6	+6.8	..
Property	234.8	247.2	..	..
Cash	169.2	169.2	+0.2	..
Managed	332.4	349.9	+9.3	..
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE				
28, St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 1YF				
031 556 9101				
Cash	147.3	155.0	+0.21	..
Index-Linked	120.7	127.1	-0.5	..
Fixed Interest	128.1	134.8	-0.8	..
Mixed	180.2	189.7	+3.8	..
UK Equity	176.9	186.2	+4.4	..
International	185.2	194.9	+3.2	..
American	147.9	155.7	+3.2	..
Japan	197.8	208.2	+5.4	..
European	200.8	211.4	+2.3	..
Pacific	213.3	224.5	+5.3	..
Technology	198.1	208.4	+3.6	..
Foreign Bd/Currency	150.5	158.4	+1.8	..
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh EH2 1YE				
031-225 2211				
Property	173.0	182.2	-1.4	..
UK Equity	283.2	298.6⊕	+5.6	..
American	151.1	159.2⊕	+3.3	..
Pacific	209.4	220.8⊕	+8.3	..
European	299.1	315.0	+2.4	..
International	195.4	205.8	+4.0	..
Fixed Interest	163.0	171.6	-0.8	..
Index Linked	153.8	162.0	-0.2	..
Deposit	157.2	165.6	+0.3	..
Managed	197.0	207.5	+3.8	..
Worldwide	83.4	87.9	+2.0	..
Pen Worldwide	84.3	88.9	+2.1	..
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE				
109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN				
041-248 6321				
Flex Fund (26)	£10.88	11.21	..	..
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENTS				
109, St Vincent St, Glasgow				
041-248 6321				
Safety Fund	167.2	176.0	+0.6	..
Growth Fund	163.1	171.7	+3.2	..
Opportunity Fund	164.0	172.7	+3.0	..
Cash Fund	142.8	150.4	+0.2	..
European Fund	234.5	246.8	+2.1	..
Gilts & Fxd Int Fund	136.7	143.9	-0.5	..
Index-Linked Fund	136.4	143.6	-0.4	..
International Fund	189.2	199.2	+4.8	..
North American Fd	153.6	161.7	+6.3	..
Property Fund	127.5	134.3	..	..
UK Equity	176.5	185.8	+4.8	..
UK Smaller	162.8	171.4	+4.4	..
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT				
6 St Andrews Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA				
031-556 9181				
Mixed	188.6	198.7	+8.4	..
Equity	197.7	208.2	+4.1	..
International	191.8	201.8	+6.1	..
Property	212.4	223.6	-0.5	..
Fixed Interest	159.6	168.1	-0.6	..
Index Linked	136.8	144.1	-0.9	..
Cash	156.0	164.3	+0.3	..
SCOTTISH WIDOWS				
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU				
031-655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	677.1		..	..
Inv Pol 2	621.0	653.8	..	..
Inv Pol 3	598.6	630.2	..	..
Inv Cash	253.9	267.3	..	..
Mixed Fund	338.8	356.7	+6.0	..
Equity Fund	410.0	431.7	+7.3	..
Property Fund	214.2	225.6	-4.0	..
International Fund	330.3	347.6	+7.3	..
Fixed Interest Fund	249.1	262.3	-0.7	..
Indexed Stock Fund	150.7	158.7	-0.9	..
Cash Fund	183.4	193.2	+0.3	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
SKANDIA LIFE				
Frobisher Hse, Nelsons Gate, Southampton SO9 7BX				
0703 334411				
Managed Accum	266.4	280.4	+2.0	..
Equity Accum	310.8	328.0	+3.8	..
International Accum	235.3	247.6	+3.6	..
Property	213.6	225.0	-4.2	..
Royal Trust Mngd	168.6	177.4	+2.6	..
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO				
3, George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ				
031-225-2552				
Cash	221.7	233.4	+0.4	..
Equity	694.5	731.1	+21.1	..
European	112.1	118.0	+1.1	..
Far East	109.1	114.9	+2.9	..
Fixed Interest	271.9	286.3	-0.8	..
Index Linked	154.9	163.1	-0.6	..
International	399.5	415.5	+9.5	..
Managed	482.8	508.3	+11.9	..
Nth American	100.0	105.3	+3.0	..
Property	304.0	320.0	-1.3	..
Pension Funds				
Cash	324.9	342.0	+0.7	..
Equity	944.6	994.4	+22.5	..
European	112.1	118.0	+1.1	..
Far East	109.1	114.9	+2.9	..
Fixed Interest	346.9	365.2	-0.9	..
Index Linked	209.7	220.8	-0.7	..
International	522.0	549.5	+13.4	..
Managed	637.5	671.1	+17.4	..
Nth American	100.0	105.3	+3.0	..
Property	374.2	393.9	-3.0	..
Stock Exchange	142.3	149.8	+4.2	..
SUN ALLIANCE				
Sun Alliance Hse, Horsham, Sussex				
0403 64141				
Managed Fund	450.1	473.8	+8.4	..
Equity Fund	625.7	658.7	+14.3	..
Fixed Interest Fund	301.7	317.6	-0.9	..
Index Linked Fund	228.5	240.6	-1.9	..
Property Fund	387.6	408.0	-8.3	..
International Fund	391.5	412.2	+7.8	..
N American Fund	124.7	131.3	+5.0	..
Far East Fund	136.9	143.8	+6.2	..
Deposit Fund	241.5	254.3	+0.5	..
International Bond	£49.99		+0.34	..
Worldwide Bond			..	..
Worldwide Fincl	88.0	89.5	+1.7	..
Worldwide Tech	77.3	81.4	+4.0	..
European	108.8	114.6	+2.8	..
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ				
Dealing:0256-841414				
Growth Account	£10.325		+0.19	..
Managed Account	584.9		+5.3	..
Equity Account	841.1		+10.5	..
Mngd Fund Accum	279.1	293.8	+2.5	..
Equity Fund Accum	375.4	395.2	+4.8	..
Prop Fund Accum	241.9	254.6	+0.3	..
Fixed Int Fd Acc	218.1	229.6	+0.1	..
Money Fund Accum	179.8	189.2	+0.5	..
Indx-Lnkd Scs Acc	160.1	168.5	+0.2	..
Pens Pens Account	£12.227		+0.02	..
Pens Mngd Account	565.8	595.7	+1.1	..
Pens Guarantee	178.0	187.3	+0.4	..
Pens Equity	220.1	231.7	+0.5	..
Pens Property	205.6	216.5	+0.4	..
Pens Fixed Int	186.5	196.4	-0.8	..
Pens Intl	144.0	151.6	+0.9	..
Pens Money	181.8	191.4	+0.4	..
Pens Indx-Lnkd	146.5	154.2	-0.7	..
SUN LIFE UNIT				
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL				
0272 426911				
Managed Accum	600.2	631.8	+11.9	..
Property Accum	292.3	307.7	-0.9	..
Equity Accum	951.5	1001.6	+27.6	..
Fixed Int Accum	256.8	260.7	-1.8	..
Index-Linked Accum	148.3	156.2	-0.5	..
Cash Accum	253.6	267.2	+0.4	..
Amer Equity Accum	235.4	247.8	+11.2	..
US Bonds Accum	134.4	141.5	..	..
Japan Accum	244.4	257.3	+4.9	..
Pacific Accum	156.7	165.0	+4.1	..
Far Eastern Accum	423.7	446.0	+10.8	..
International Accum	325.0	342.2	+6.4	..
US Dollar Accum	61.9	65.3	..	..
Yen Accum	125.7	132.4	..	..
Euro Cur Accum	128.2	135.0	..	..
Distribution Fund	235.8	248.3	+3.6	7.63
European	124.1	130.7	-1.2	..
TSB LIFE LTD				
Keens House, Andover, Hants, SP10 1PG				
0264 56789				
Managed Fund	202.0	212.7	+5.8	..
Property Fund	167.3	176.2	+0.3	..
Fixed Interest Fund	159.6	168.2	+0.2	..
Money Fund	163.6	172.3	+0.2	..
Equity Fund	263.5	277.5	+9.1	..
TARGET LIFE				
Target House, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury Bucks				
Aylesbury (0296) 394000				
American Eagle	104.7	110.3	+1.2	..
Australian	18.7	20.8	+0.3	..
Deposit	209.1	220.2	+0.3	..
Residential Prop	63.6	66.6	+0.1	..
Financial	193.1	203.3	+3.7	..
Fixed Interest	258.3	272.4	-0.4	..
Gold	55.1	58.0	+2.1	..
Income	269.8	284.1	+4.5	..
International Equity	230.2	242.4	+3.6	..
Japan	327.7	345.0	+7.4	..
Managed	440.5	463.7	+10.1	..
International Bond	87.7	92.9●	-0.3	..
Managed Prop	142.0	149.5	..	..
Pacific	209.0	220.0	..	..
Preference	176.7	186.0	+1.7	..
Property	264.8	278.8	-1.2	..
Sterling	10.6		..	..
UK Cap	173.5	182.7	+4.9	..
UK Cap Pen			..	..
World Income	191.0	201.9	+2.4	..
Euro Situations	170.9	179.9	+4.0	.
TYNDALL ASSURANCE				
491, St John Street,				
8 London EC1V 4QE 071-837 5494				
3-Way Fund	412.6	412.6	+8.01	..
UK Equity	241.7	254.4	+5.01	..
N American Equity	186.7	196.5	+4.35	..
Far East Equity	230.0	235.3	+3.37	..
Fixed	212.1	223.3	-0.57	..
Cash Deposit	168.1	176.0	+0.27	..
Property	108.7	114.4	+0.26	..
Special Opp	220.9	232.2	+8.17	..
Managed	212.0	223.2	+3.73	..
Index-Linked Fd	147.1	154.9	-0.88	..

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

● BES WORRIES 32
● NEW VISA LOGO 33
● LETTERS 34

Teaching investors to self-protect

COMMENT

GODFREY JILLINGS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF FIMBRA

By April, the Financial Services Act will have been in force for three years. Now is a good time to assess how far it has helped provide better investor protection. Overall, it has been a qualified success, but perhaps too much was promised over too short a time. As a colleague recently suggested, "we have tried to move from the era of a horse and cart to a Concorde in one go, with predictable results". Sadly, too much was expected too soon, leading to some disappointments. But perhaps, as Churchill said in different circumstances, "we are at the end of the beginning" and we can now review what deficiencies there have been and seek to strengthen the regulatory system in the consumer interest.

I am concerned, as the chief executive with the largest membership of any self-regulatory body, to carry on improving investor protection. Not only is this right in the public interest, but it makes good commercial sense for our members. They know that good professional advice leads to satisfied customers, repeat business and new introductions. Bad advice is soon rumbled and, apart from being a breach of our rules, is the quickest way to lose a good client.

By definition, all my members are independent financial advisers (IFAs), but the Act has failed to explain to the public the difference between dealing with an IFA or a tied agent (or company representative). I am satisfied there is only one way to obtain the best financial advice, and that is to go to an IFA (often displaying a Fimbra logo). He or she has an obligation not only to identify the most suitable investment for your needs, but to identify the best product available. I know this is in the best interest of the public as I have tested the system on two occasions, with IFAs helping me identify much better annuities for an aged aunt than I had identified by writing direct to a number of insurance companies.

Tied agents and company representatives, however, do not have to advise the public about the best products within the complete range. It is assumed in the legislation (wrongly in my view) that the public understand that a tied agent only has an obligation to sell the best product he has from within a single company product range, which is often limited in scope and competitiveness. It is most unlikely, for instance, that a tied agent would recommend a company share option scheme linked to a save-as-you-earn contract. And how often will a tied agent recommend that a customer go to an independent adviser (as required by the law). This cannot be in the public interest and is a major failing of the Act. Even more unsatisfactory is that the Act has made it more commercially attractive for many advisers to switch from being IFAs to tied agents. In the consumer interest, the very reverse should be encouraged. On mainland Europe, where the independent financial sector is too limited to stimulate effective competition, term assurance costs about three times as much in most countries. This shows why independent financial advice in the UK needs to be encouraged to keep the competitive bite. Another problem is that the proposed insurance commission disclosure arrangements, through lack of investment education, could discourage the public from taking out suitable investment protection and savings policies. Most regulators and consumer protection groups acknowledge that insurance has to be sold not bought, but this is not necessarily reflected in the terms of reference within which the Office of Fair Trading sometimes has to operate.

I am concerned that the compensation scheme set up under the Act may have led some investors to feel safer than they should. Professor Gower, in his original report on investor protection, on which the Act is based, said: "Regulation should be no greater than is necessary to protect reasonable people from being made fools of." But the Act encourages people to take risks, while fraud would often be much more difficult with more public vigilance. We should all know that an offer of an above average return entails above average risks. I do not want the public not to be compensated, but wonder whether, if investors knew they were only going to be compensated for 90 per cent of their investment up to £50,000, rather than 100 per cent of the first £30,000, and 90 per cent of the next £20,000, they would be as careful with the selection of their investment adviser as they probably are with a new car. We need better public investment education.

Fimbra has been at the cutting edge of the Act; it has been an invaluable experience. Checks have been made on all membership and all those registered. Many who were not considered to be fit and proper have been excluded from the independent sector. We must protect the public from likely risks and I have no hesitation in claiming the professional achievement of my Fimbra team, as professional regulators, in the public interest.

Fimbra, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers' Regulatory Association is the watchdog for independent advisers set up under the Financial Services Act.

Chancellor likely to resurrect proposals to clamp down on tax avoidance, reports Lindsay Cook, Money Editor

Budget may close offshore loopholes

OFFSHORE trusts, a favourite way for wealthy British people to avoid tax, may be on the way out. With them could go the tax loophole that allows those leaving the country temporarily to sell assets without incurring any tax bills.

Leading firms of accountants are advising clients to act ahead of this month's Budget if they want to be certain of escaping from the clutches of the Inland Revenue. The changes are expected in the wake of newspaper criticism of wealthy people using offshore trusts or settlements to avoid paying any capital gains tax. These devices are estimated to be costing the Inland Revenue £1 billion a year.

Since 1981, people have been able to avoid paying tax on UK-based assets held in offshore trusts. A review of trusts was begun in June 1988, and, last October, the Inland Revenue said "a further announcement" would be made in due course. It is also two years since the government abandoned its last attempt to reform the tax system for people working and retiring abroad.

On the day of the 1989 Budget, Norman Lamont, who was then Financial Secretary to the Treasury, announced that proposals made in a consultative document were being shelved. This followed strong criticism of the plan to tax foreigners living in Britain for more than seven years and receiving income from abroad on the same basis as British taxpayers.

However, Mr Lamont, now the Chancellor, said at the time that some of the measures were likely to be resurrected. This was understood to refer to proposals to stop Britons being able to avoid tax bills by emigrating for relatively short periods.

A loophole allows Britons to emigrate and dispose of their assets the following day without incurring any liability to capital gains tax if they work out of the country for a full tax year. Those who retire abroad must stay away for at least three years to escape.

The savings can be substantial, with a capital gains tax rate of 40 per cent when assets such as family businesses are disposed of. The owners can, however, return to Britain for visits totalling 90 days during the year. Changes in the rules governing how much time expatriates can spend in Britain without incurring tax bills, are also considered likely.

The Inland Revenue started becoming tough last year with the British holders of personalised offshore bonds earning gross interest. Next month's tax returns will, for the first time, make it clear that such interest earned by British investors is subject to annual income tax even if it is rolled-up in the bond. These have always been subject to yearly assessment, says the Revenue.

The offshore arms of major British insurance companies, however, had sold them to British residents on the stated understanding that no tax would be due if the interest was rolled-up offshore.

Tax investigators asked the insurance companies last year to supply the names of all their policyholders and are now pursuing them through the British brokers who sold the bonds. Some of the investors could face substantial tax bills dating back more than ten years. The insurance companies estimate that £100 million is invested in the bonds.

Ian Luder, of Arthur Andersen, the accountant, predicts legislation to put an end to other tax evasion abroad. "I would expect there will be an end to offshore settlements and the government will stop people escaping for 12 months or 3 years to avoid capital gains tax."

Martin McLellan, of Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, the accountant, said: "The government may decide to stop people being able to get away with blatant tax avoidance.

"My feeling is that they may well bring in legislation specifically targeted at aspects that get up their nose. One of these is the substantial sums of capital gains tax that are lost when people emigrate to tax havens and then sell the family company. It is worth it to them to spend a year or two in the Channel Islands if it saves tax at 40 per cent."

Currently, it is possible for expatriates to avoid UK tax bills if they count their days in Britain carefully. It is possible to spend up to 183 days in any one year without incurring a tax liability, so long as the average period does not exceed 90 days a year. Travelling days are not counted in such calculations, so anyone staying in Britain from Monday to Friday would only have to count Tuesday, Wednesay and Thursday towards their 90 or 183 days. These rules date back to the days before international air travel.

By careful timing, large sums of tax can be saved. Dave Clark, the Sixties' pop star, defeated the Inland Revenue in the High Court in 1985. The Revenue wanted to tax him on American earnings of £265,000 in 1978-9. It maintained that he moved to Los Angeles for a year to avoid paying tax on the money. But the court ruled that residence abroad for a particular period was no less residence abroad because the main reason was tax avoidance.

> *'I would expect the government will stop people escaping to avoid capital gains tax'*

David Rothenberg, of Blick Rothenberg, the accountant, said there is currently increased activity in setting up trusts and taking advantage of lower tax charges offered by existing trusts.

Clients who have set up "freezer" trusts in the past few years are transferring them offshore. These trusts freeze the value of assets to fix the capital gains liability, which becomes due when the trust is moved offshore but at the lower value fixed years earlier.

"People are particularly looking at whether they want to export these trusts now as they realise they may not be able to do so later. It is a matter of whether they can find the cash to pay the capital gains tax bill now or not," Mr Rothenberg said.

There would be greater activity but for the recession. This has reduced the value of the assets in some cases and in others reduced the willingness to pay a capital gains tax bill now, he said.

Any change is expected to put an immediate end to the tax benefits of such trusts. Also in jeopardy is the generous treatment of capital gains liabilities for people who work abroad for a year or more. Accountants report that the Revenue is paying closer attention to the employment claims of people who make substantial tax-free disposals when they are abroad.

In the consultative document, it was pointed out under the heading "opportunity for exploitation" that the long-standing practice for income tax and capital gains tax "had had the unfortunate result of employments being created abroad with a view to realising gains free of UK capital gains tax shortly after departure. The individual may then return to the United Kingdom a year later, and remain here for the rest of his life".

America has already declared its intention to impose capital gains tax on people who buy and sell property when non-resident. This could provide a further impetus for the British government to impose a similar tax treatment and to negotiate a reciprocal agreement on capital gains tax as part of the double tax treaty.

At KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, the accountant, Loughlin Hickey said he expected that a consultative document on trusts would be issued on Budget day and that measures would be introduced immediately to prevent anyone sheltering any future gains from tax within offshore trusts.

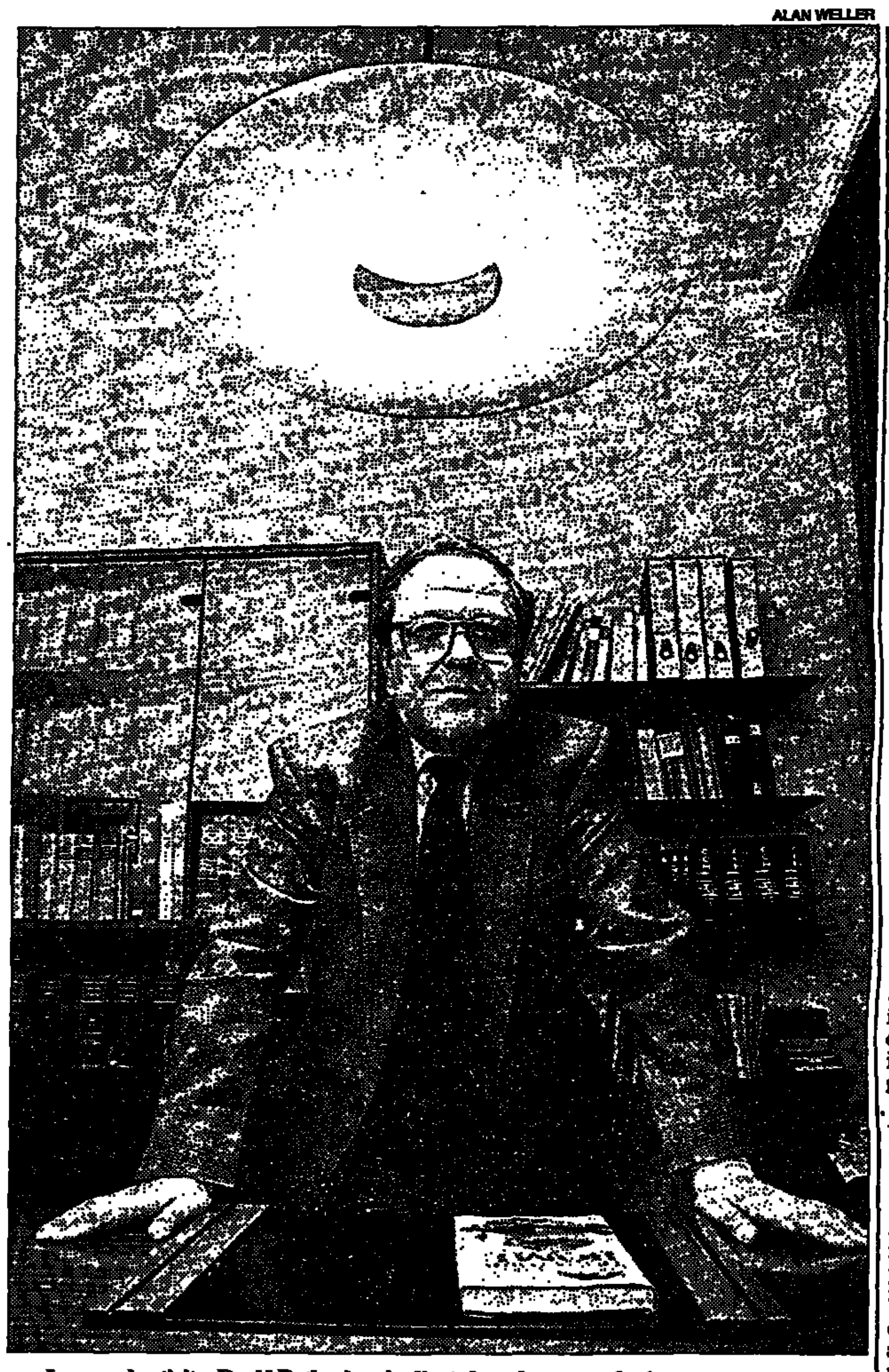
"There is an awareness among those who could benefit from such trusts that there could be a change and there will be a number of trusts set up before the Budget," Mr Hickey said.

"Those who have set up existing trusts but not realised accrued gains may choose to bed and breakfast ahead of the Budget." By selling and buying back the assets, a higher base price for future capital gains tax bills is established.

Lesley Ferrar, from the same firm, said the Inland Revenue already pursued people who left Britain and then made substantial disposals. "If someone sets up a job abroad for the purpose of realising gains whilst they are out of the country then the Inland Revenue can attack them," she said.

Accountants hope there will be a relaxation of the rules applying to people who retain a property in Britain when they move abroad. They can currently become liable to tax if they keep a property that is available to them when they return for a few days.

ALAN WELLER



Increased activity: David Rothenberg's clients have been transferring trusts overseas

Savers confused by tax reforms

By Lindsay Cook
Money Editor

SAVERS are still confused about the abolition of composite rate tax (CRT) next month, despite a multi-million pound television advertising campaign and leaflets being delivered to every household in Britain.

The tax, which is deducted from interest by banks and building societies, is to be replaced by basic rate tax. This will allow 15 million savers who are non-taxpayers to have their interest paid without deduction of tax or to claim back tax deducted. To qualify for gross-paid interest, they must fill in form R85 to register as non-taxpayers.

This week, the Inland Revenue published a list of the most frequent questions about the tax changes together with the answers.

One query is whether a saver can register one account for gross interest and pay tax on other accounts. The answer is no. Only those people who do not expect to be liable to income tax can register for gross interest.

Leaflet IR111, which explains how to get a refund of overpaid tax, will be in all tax offices and tax enquiry centres from April 2.

Many savers are unsure how much income they can have and still register for interest with no tax deducted. This is not yet known for certain as the personal allowances for 1991-2 will not be announced until the Budget on March 19. As guidance, the Revenue is using this year's allowances.

Couples keen to get the full benefit of the new régime on their joint savings accounts want to know if a non-taxpayer can register for gross interest on an account shared with a taxpayer. The Inland Revenue will permit interest to be paid in this way but some banks and building societies will not split interest.

The rules concerning children's accounts are confusing and vary according to who operates the account and where the money came from. Children have a single person's tax allowance. This can be used to set against interest on their savings. However, money from parents is treated differently. A child can receive up to £100 a year in interest and other investment income on money given by each parent and get gross interest.

Tribunal backs ban on credit by address

By Liz Dolan

THOUSANDS of credit applicants who have been unfairly refused credit may be able to have their creditworthiness reassessed following a ruling by the Data Protection Tribunal.

The tribunal has turned down an appeal by CCN Systems, one of Britain's largest credit reference agencies, against a decision by Eric Howe, the Data Protection Registrar, on credit search procedures that take into account the histories of past and present occupants of the same address.

Mr Howe ruled last August that such methods should be banned because they can give rise to decisions that may be both inequitable and are arrived at through an unwarranted invasion of privacy.

At the moment, all four of the country's major credit reference agencies operate address based credit scoring systems. People assessed by this method are in danger of having credit applications turned down because of the behaviour of unrelated lodgers, flatmates and even residents of other flats in their block. Others have been turned down because of the credit histories of people who moved out long before the credit applicant took up residence.

CCN will still be allowed to use "third party information", as it is known by the industry, for another two years because the tribunal has given the agency until January 1, 1993, to set up an alternative rating system. The tribunal also allowed the agency to continue taking into account information about members of the family living at the same address.

This decision goes some way to satisfying demands from bodies such as banks, building societies and retail organisations that have argued strongly for the present system both on grounds of cost and experience.

"If a person who lived in a house had two or three county court judgements against them, it is statistically more likely that people who move in after them will have a similar history," argues Elizabeth Stanton of the Retail Credit Group, a body that speaks for most of the leading high street chains.

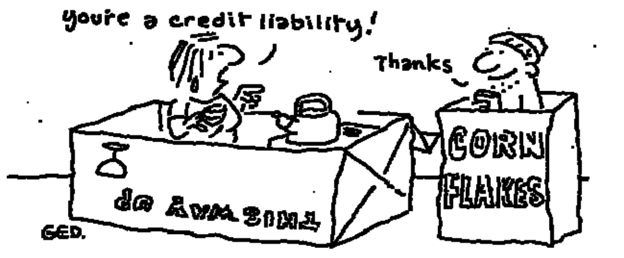
The other three major credit reference agencies, all of whichare still technically awaiting judgement on similar appeals against the Data Protection Registrar's original ruling, are thought likely to give in gracefully.

The National Consumer Council and the Consumers' Association have both welcomed the tribunal's ruling, even though it stopped short of a complete ban on the use of third party information.

"We think the whole idea goes against natural justice," said a spokesman for the NCC. "We have always opposed it in every instance except where a married person has neither income nor credit history. We consider that in those circumstances it would be reasonable to take into account the situation of the legal spouse — but even then only with the consent of both parties."

The Consumers' Association said that, while it appreciated the value of using third party information in assessing creditworthiness, the importance of individual privacy must override all other considerations, including those of cost.

"If it means that banks and building societies have to develop more expensive credit scoring systems, then that is what will have to happen," said Jean Eaglesham, a senior researcher.



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Banking code may give salesmen access to accounts

By PAUL COOPER

THE consultation period for the draft Code of Banking Practice expired yesterday. If the code goes through without further change, banking sales teams will be authorised to access any information about a customer's account and use it to generate insurance and investment sales.

A customer paying in £5,000 could get a telephone call the same evening from an investment adviser. Should the customer then decide to take out a life assurance policy, he or she is likely to be contacted by a bank or building society trying to sell its own brand.

This practice, now widespread and open to abuse, upsets many customers, who feel information about their financial activities is confidential and should not be given to a salesman as a "hot lead".

In August, Michael White, an instrument technician from Barnstaple in Devon took out a personal pension with National Provident Institution (NPI) through Roach & Tucker, his independent broker.

A direct debit mandate was sent to his bank, but when NPI wrote in for payment on September 13, the financial planning adviser at his Lloyds Bank branch scented the chance of a rival sale. Two weeks after the bank should have paid out the direct debit, she wrote a letter to Mr White.

The letter said: "I notice from our record that you have recently started a diret debit for your pension/life cover." There was no life cover in Mr White's case. The letter advised Mr White that the bank provided a financial planning service "completely free of charge" for customers and asked him to bear it in mind should he "require further advice in this area".

Lloyds aborted the direct debit instruction five days after it had been started. The Barnstaple branch manager claimed the standing order clerk had been unable to locate Mr White's records, therefore "payment was returned". When Mr White noticed the muddle and contacted the bank to sort things out, he got no clear explanation. He was told there had been an administrative error, but that the bank "could not advise further".

Bank and building society managers are under enormous pressure to fulfil their quotas of financial services sales.

A spokeswoman at the British Bankers' Association said banks have a duty of care to their customers to ensure they know what products and services are on offer.

Clause 6.3 of the draft banking practice code states that banks may "pass personal information about their customers to banking, financial and investment members of their group".

The clause will, therefore, be opposed by consumer groups. Stephen Locke, director of the policy unit at the Consumers' Association, said the clause went much further than the White Paper, which had only allowed account information to be circulated to "the banking companies within the group". The Consumers' Association says it is wrong for this information to be passed on to insurance subsidiaries.

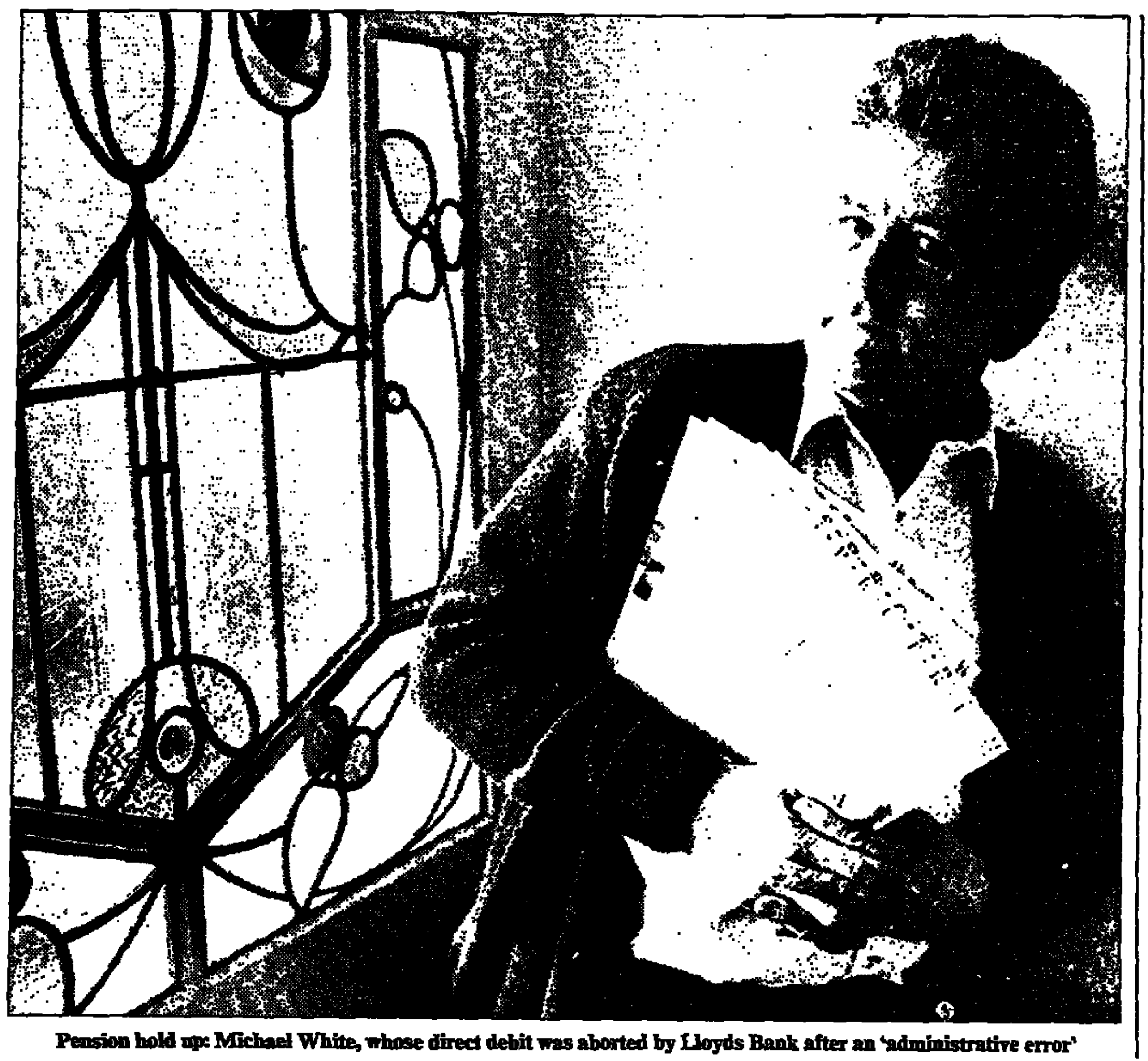
Recent research by the National Consumer Council shows that people strongly object to information about their financial affairs being passed on to third parties, even if they are subsidiaries of the bank.

They are especially angry when this is done without their knowledge or consent. Wendy Toms, of the consumer council, said such practice is unlawful under the current banking law, because it fails the "fair obtaining" principle of the Data Protection Act.

She added that the Advertising Association's recent standard of practice is higher than that of the draft baking code in this respect.

The White Paper says the code should "lay down good practice on the use of confidential information for marketing purposes".

The three banking associations that drafted the code appointed an independent steering committee as a watchdog. The committee consists of Margaret Reid and Sir Alastair Burnet, the journalists, and four retired bankers.



Pension hold up: Michael White, whose direct debit was aborted by Lloyds Bank after an 'administrative error'

Charcol to offer fixed 11.5% loans

By LIZ DOLAN

JOHN Charcol, the mortgage broker, has launched a mortgage with a rate fixed at 11.5 per cent until March 31, 1994.

The home loan is part of Charcol's new mortgage management account package, which allows borrowers to draw on the balance between his or her actual mortgage and a prearranged maximum borrowing entitlement.

Interest on long term loans for use on home improvements and school fees is charged at the prevailing variable rate.

The package also includes a cheque book account for short term loans on which interest is charged at 1 per cent above the variable rate.

Cheshire Building Society is also offering fixed rate mortgages, at 11.55 per cent until April 1, 1995.

Payment declines

Extra Start is a new two-year "step down" mortgage launched by Citibank for first time buyers. The rate has been fixed at 12.2 per cent until March 1992, dropping to 11.9 per cent in the following year.

The plan also offers three months' free redundancy and sickness cover, free valuation and one month's free building and contents insurance.

Generator sales to range from £9

APPLICATIONS for shares in National Power and PowerGen are expected to start in earnest this weekend. Application forms must reach the receiving banks by 10am on March 6, at the latest, though all but main branches will accept forms only until the close of business on March 5 (Liz Dolan writes).

Share allocations are due to be announced on March 11 and dealings on the stockmarket start at 2.30pm the following day. The organisers will not start sending allocation letters until Friday, March 15. Some will not be in the post until March 18.

Norwich and Peterborough Building Society will sell shares for customers and non-customers at a flat fee of £9 per company for up to four members of the same family. Shareholders who lodged their application forms with the society can sell on the first day of dealing. Others, who pay £14, have to wait for their allocation letters.

Wise Speke, the regional stockbroker, will sell shares from March 12 for all shareholders who submitted applications through the company. The minimum commission is £20 a company.

Fidelity share service will sell shares for existing account holders on the first day of dealing for up to six family members. The minimum £25 fee rises to £50 for deals worth between £3,900 and £20,000. A freephone dealing line will be open until March 11.

Up to six immediate family members can group their holdings for the minimum £25 fee, which rises to £50 for trades worth between £3,900 and £20,000.

Banks follow big societies with rate cuts

By SARA MCCONNELL

MORTGAGE rates have finally started to fall for both new and existing borrowers after this week's further half-point cut in base rates. Lenders also held out a promise of further reductions if the Chancellor announces another base rate cut in the Budget.

Building societies, led by the Halifax and the Nationwide, cut rates immediately after base rates fell, while the big clearing banks, Barclays, National Westminster, Lloyds and Midland, waited until the end of the week before cutting rates for both new and existing borrowers by three quarters of a point.

Abbey National also announced immediate cuts of between 0.75 per cent and 0.85 per cent for new and existing borrowers from March 18.

NatWest's existing customers will see their rate cut from 14.5 to 13.75 per cent from April 1 while new borrowers can take advantage of the lower rate from March 4.

Barclays' rate falls by three-quarters of a point to 13.75 per cent for new borrowers from March 1. Existing borrowers will pay 14 per cent from April 1, down from 14.75 per cent. Lloyds expects to cut rates by three-quarters of a point for all borrowers from April 1 "subject to market conditions". Midland is reducing its mortgage rate from 14.7 per cent to 13.95 per cent from Monday for new borrowers and from April 1 for existing borrowers.

Several other building societies announced cuts by the end of the week, including the Norwich and Peterborough which announced a 1 per cent cut for existing borrowers from April 29. The cut is immediate for new borrowers.

Bradford & Bingley and Cheltenham & Gloucester cut rates for new borrowers immediately by 0.75 per cent, with a similar cut for existing borrowers from April 1.

The Household Mortgage Corporation, the centralised lender, cut its standard rate by 1 per cent to 13.95 per cent.

The Halifax, the largest building society, promised a cut of at least three-quarters of a point to 13.75 per cent for existing borrowers from April 1, a week after it had cut its rate for new borrowers to 13.75 per cent.

Jim Birrell, the chief executive, said: "We want to wait until the Budget before we finally confirm the rate that will apply to existing borrowers from April 1 but this will be down to at least 13.75 per cent."

However, millions of borrowers whose mortgages are reviewed annually will not see any benefit until next year unless there are further drastic cuts in base rates.

Most large societies operate these systems.

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3. Investment [illegible]
4. Management [illegible]
5. [illegible]
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I wish to cancel the application form for a MIM Britannia Personal Equity Plan and have my subscription returned forthwith.

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Other ________ Surname ________ Initials ________
Address ________
____
________ Postcode ________
Signature ________ Date ________

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TaxHaven High Income is a share PEP (Personal Equity Plan) which invests directly in U.K. quoted shares. This means your investment will be:—

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†MIM Britannia is the business name for INVESCO MIM Management Limited, which is a member of IMRO and a subsidiary of INVESCO MIM PLC. Tax levels and reliefs are those currently applicable and may change. The value of any tax relief depends on personal circumstances.

*From 5.4.90 to 6.10.91. Source: Best PEP Advice.

MIM BRITANNIA

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1. INVESTMENT DETAILS
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Please indicate your choice by ticking the relevant box. The minimum investment is £2,000 and the maximum is £6,345, which includes the Manager's initial charge of 5% + VAT. Please make your cheque payable to INVESCO MIM Management Limited.
Taxhaven High Income (reinvested income) ☐
or Taxhaven High Income (distributed income) ☐
I would like to invest (including charges) £

2. PERSONAL DETAILS
MIM PEP reference (if existing plan holder)
Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms/other)
Forenames
Surname
Permanent UK Address (a "care of" address cannot be accepted)
Postcode
Telephone Number
Date of Birth
National Insurance* Number or Pension Number CC
Tax District and reference (if known)

3. CHECKLIST
Enclosed cheque made payable to INVESCO MIM Management Ltd? ☐
Chosen investment amount? ☐
Completed all personal details including National Insurance/Pension Number? ☐

NOW PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION
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I authorise INVESCO MIM Management Ltd. to hold my cash subscription. Plan investments, interest, distributions and any other rights or proceeds in respect of these investments and any other cash and to make on my behalf any claims for relief from tax in respect of my Plan investments to the Inland Revenue. I authorise INVESCO MIM Management Ltd. as Plan Manager on my written request to transfer or pay to me, as the case may be, Plan investments, interest, distributions, rights or other proceeds in respect of such investments or cash. I declare that the information given in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I will inform INVESCO MIM Management Ltd without delay of any change in my circumstances affecting any of the information given on the form.
Please note no interest will be paid on sums held by INVESCO MIM Management Ltd during the statutory 7 day cooling-off period, pending commencement of the Plan and accordingly you will not receive the benefit of the Client Money Rules governing payment of interest.

Signature ________ Date ________

* Inland Revenue PEP regulations mean that we cannot accept this application without your National Insurance number or Pension number. Your National Insurance number can be found on your payslip, your tax return, your tax code notice or from your employer's personnel department.

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INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max Investment £	Notice	Contact
BANKS						
Ordinary Dep A/c: Typical	2.88	3.02	2.41	none/none	7 day	—
Fixed Term Deposits:						
Barclays	9.44	9.44	7.55	25,000-50,000	1 mth	071-626 1567
"	9.33	9.33	7.46	25,000-50,000	3 mth	071-626 1567
Lloyds	8.72	8.72	6.98	2,500-no max	1 mth	Local Brnch
"	8.38	8.38	6.70	2,500-no max	6 mth	Local Brnch
Midland	9.07	9.07	7.26	10,000-no max	1 mth	071-260 2805
" " "	8.34	8.34	6.67	10,000-no max	3 mth	071-260 2805
NatWest	8.88	8.88	7.10	10,000-24,000	1 mth	071-726 1000
" " "	8.38	8.38	6.70	10,000-24,000	3 mth	071-726 1000
HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNTS						
Bank of Scotland MMC	9.16	9.56	7.65	2,500‡	none	031-442 7777
Barclays Prime a/c	8.11	8.36	6.69	2,500‡	none	0604 252891
Co-operative Ultra	5.40	5.60	4.48	2,500‡	none	071 626 6543
Girobank	8.00	8.00	6.40	1,000‡	none	051 966 2076
Lloyds HICA	4.13	4.20	3.36	500‡	none	0272 433372
Midland HICA	8.06	8.21	6.57	2,000‡	none	—
NatWest Special Reserve	7.38	7.58	6.06	500‡	none	071-374 3374
Royal Bank of Scot Prem A/c	8.55	8.84	7.07	2,500	none	031-556 8555
TSB Bank HICA	7.58	7.58	6.06	2,000‡	none	071-600 6000
BUILDING SOCIETIES						
Ordinary Share A/c	6.15	6.15	4.92	1 min	none	—
Best buy — largest socs:						
Nationwide Ang	9.00	9.00	7.20	1 min	none	—
Portman	9.86	9.86	7.89	500 min	none	—
Cheltenham & Gl	11.03	11.03	8.83	2,500 min	none	—
Nationwide Ang	10.88	10.88	8.70	10,000 min	90 day	—
Bristol & West	12.00	12.00	9.50	25,000 min	1 year	—
Best buy — all socs:						
Cheltenham & Gl	11.03	11.03	8.82	2,500 min	none	—
Lancastrian	10.70	10.70	8.56	10,000 min	30 day	—
Holmesdale Bsn	10.88	10.88	8.70	500 min	60 day	—
Hendon	10.76	11.05	8.84	1,000 min	90 day	—
Lambeth	10.25	10.51	8.41	250 min	6 mths	—
Cash/Cheque Accounts:						
Halifax Card Cash	5.63	5.71	4.57	25 min		Rates rise
Alliance & Leic Cash Plus	6.25	6.25	5.00	25 min		with larger
Nationwide Anglia Flex	4.50	4.50	3.60	1 min		balances

Compiled by Chase de Vere Moneyline - call 071 404 5766 for further details

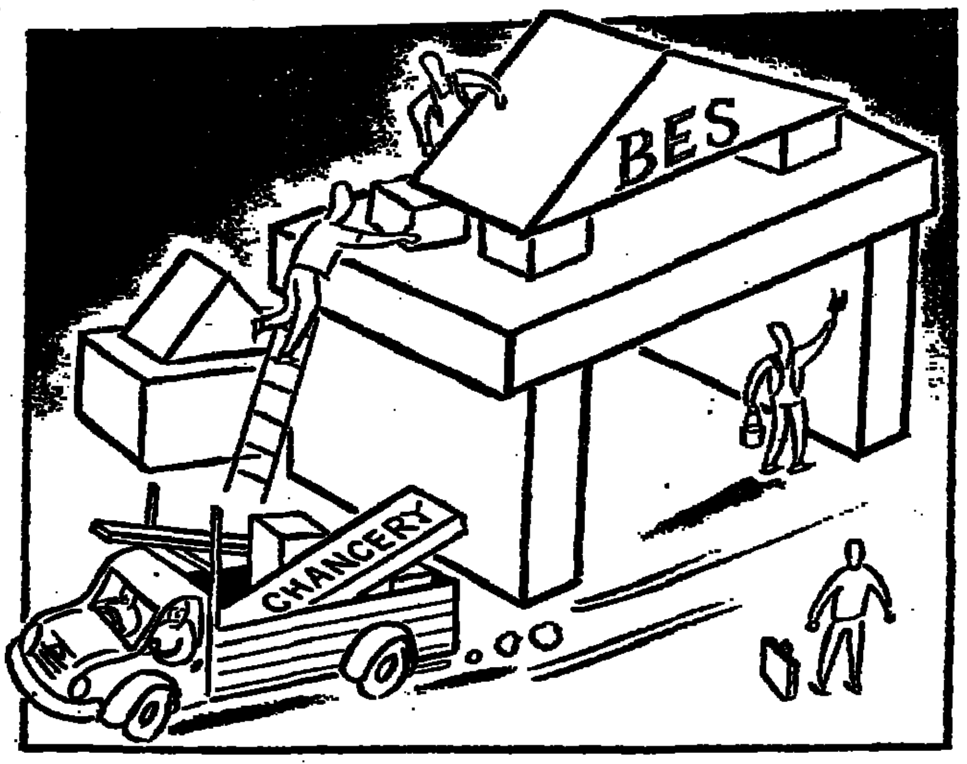
	Nominal rate	Compounded at tax rates 25%	40%	Min/max Investment £	Notice	Contact
NATIONAL SAVINGS						
Ordinary A/c¹	5.00	3.75	3.00	5-10,000	8 day	041-649-4555
Investment A/c*	12.75	9.56	7.65	5-25,000	1 mth	041-649-4555
Income Bond*	13.50	10.13	8.10	2,000-25,000	3 mth	0253 66151
Deposit Bond*□	13.50	10.13	8.10		3 mth	041-649-4555
35th Issue Cert²†	9.50	9.50	9.50	25-1,000	8 day	091-3864900
Yearly Plan†	9.50	9.50	9.50	20-200/mth	14 day	091-3864900
General Extension Rate†	5.01	5.01	5.01			
Capital Bond	13.00	9.75	7.80	100-100,000	5 yrs	041-649-4555
GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS						
Canterbury Life	10.00	10.00	8.50	10,000 min	1 yrs	Figures from
Financial Ass	9.60	9.60	8.16	5,000 min	2 yrs	Chase de
Liberty Life	9.70	9.70	8.25	25,000 min	3 yrs	Vere
Consolidated Life	9.50	9.50	8.08	2,000 min	4 yrs	071 404 5766
Hill Samuel	9.50	9.50	8.08	5,000 min	5 yrs	for details

		Holiday rates	£ buys
RPI (Jan. 89-90)	+9.0%	Spanish Pesetas:	175.75
Bank Base Rate	13.0%	French Francs:	9.70
Personal Loan	24.9%	Greek Drachma:	309.00
Credit Card	19.5-31%	Italian Lira:	2130.00

*¹2.5% for balances below £500, first £70 of interest tax free, instant access for withdrawals of £100 or less ²Additional holdings up to £10,000 for investors re-investing proceeds of existing matured certificates †Tax free *Interest taxable paid gross ‡Higher rates for larger sums □No longer on sale*

Compiled by KAREN BUCKLEY

BES groups woo worried investors



PAULA YOUENS

THE Business Expansion Scheme market is trying to smoothe over the cracks in investor confidence after last week's collapse of Chancery, one of the largest BES sponsors.

Chancery, which sponsored a Mortgage Corporation BES, went into administrative receivership two weeks ago, as the annual build up in BES schemes was gathering pace before the end of the tax year.

The Mortgage Corporation this week secured Smith & Williamson, the private City bank, as backer for its new assured tenancy scheme, previously sponsored by Chancery. Subscribers to the Chancery scheme, of which there are about 300, should get back the £2.6 million invested in the defunct BES company by the end of next week.

The new scheme, Home Secured Investments, will be launched after the Budget and the associated costs have been cut as a sweetener to new investors. Upfront charges are down 1 per cent to 7 per cent and annual charges have been halved to 0.5 per cent. Home Secured buys homes from Mortgage Corporation borrowers who can no longer meet their monthly repayments and who would normally face repossession. They will be charged rent and will later be given the option of buying back their homes.

The Mortgage Corporation will buy back the properties at a 50 per cent premium, unless house prices rise by more during the five-year life of the investment, in which case Home Secured Investments will sell on the open market. Minimum investment is £1,000. Smith & Williamson projects an annual return of 18.4 per cent compound, which it claims will come from property sales and rents.

The existence of such assured tenancy schemes, under which institutions are legally bound to buy back properties after five years, are lending new stability to the BES market, claims Antony Yadgaroff, editor of *BEST BES Advice*. But the Investment Management Reglatory Organisation (Imro), which regulates BES promoters, said last week that these schemes cannot be described as guaranteed because there are no third party guarantors to pay up if prospective buyers renege on their promise.

One such scheme was Johnson Fry's Guaranteed Super Growth scheme whose new issue opening next week will be called Super Growth. The first issue attracted £11.5 million in three weeks. Mark Owen of Johnson Fry said the company had had to write to all its BES investors after Imro's interpretation of its rules. However, Quality Guaranteed, a new Scottish assured tenancy scheme set up by Quality Street, a Nationwide Anglia joint venture, says the wording of its prospectus was passed by Imro this week.

Other higher risk BES schemes continue to be launched to tempt people to invest before the end of the tax year. String of Pearls, a new BES group, was launched this week to finance low budget productions for television, video, satellite, cable and cinema over six years. The directors calculate the maximum subscription of £750,000 should finance the making of up to six films; the £300,000 minimum will only be enough for two, maybe three, productions with small budgets. Subscribers must apply for at least 500 shares at £1 each.

Taxpayers who invest in a BES gain tax relief at their highest rate on a maximum investment of £40,000, or £80,000 for couples. Schemes are heavily promoted just before the tax year-end to encourage higher rate taxpayers.

LIZ DOLAN

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max %	Notes
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Bradford & Bingley 0274 568111	12.75	£60K+	90	After 1% reduction for one year
National & Provinc. 0274 733444	12.75	£60K+	95	After 1% discount for first year
Yorkshire 0274 734822	12.60	£50K+	85	After 0.9% reduction for first year
BANKS				
Barclays 0203 694242	12.75	£75K+	90	After 1% discount for first year
OTHER (FINANCE HOUSE)				
Household Mortgage 0494 459100	13.95	£20K+	95	

Figures supplied by Bay's Guides Ltd: Telephone 0753 880482.

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ADDRESS ________
POSTCODE ________ D.O.B. ________

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Gross	12.20%	12.50%	13.15%	13.75%	14.50%
Balance	£1,000+	£5,000+	£10,000+	£25,000+	£50,000+
Gross CAR*	12.57%	12.89%	13.57%	14.22%	15.03%

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If your account is closed prior to 6 April 1991 interest will be paid after deduction of Composite Rate Tax, the basic rate tax liability on which will be discharged and may not be reclaimed. *CAR = Compounded Annual Rate where half-yearly interest is credited to the account. Interest rates may vary.

FOR TAX PAYERS

Uncertainty and inertia curb pensions

By BARBARA ELLIS

THOUSANDS of people are still without any form of pension apart from the state scheme, in spite of the massive promotion of personal pensions since their introduction nearly three years ago.

Inertia and uncertainty are reasons for neglect of pension planning. In a survey of 475 contributory company schemes with 1.5 million members, nearly 20 per cent of eligible employees had not joined since compulsory membership ended in 1988. Only half that percentage had failed to join schemes in which membership was automatic unless they opted out.

Non-joiners often saw pension contributions as inconvenient deductions or thought that they were unlikely to stay with the company long enough to gain much.

Self-employed people may also put a higher priority on financing present needs.

Weekend Money submitted the profile of a fictional character, Nelson Gabriel, a wine bar owner in *The Archers*, a BBC radio serial, anonymously with a real-life case for general guidance from Ian Cartwright of I. S. Cartwright, a consulting actuary, and Christine Darley-Jones, a financial adviser, of Binder Hamlyn.

Mr Gabriel has savings of approximately £100,000, the proceeds of the sale of an antique shop last year. Business at his wine bar is slack, but he is not losing money.

Mr Cartwright said that the sale proceeds would not rank as earnings for pension purposes and neither would any investment income. At 58, Mr Gabriel would be able to pay up to 35 per cent of his net profits from self employment, into a personal pension.

He could also make contributions for the previous six years within the limits current at the time for his age at the beginning of the tax year.

The maximum would be £22,680 for this year and £21,000 for last year: 35 per cent of £64,800 and £60,000, the caps imposed on earnings for pension tax relief at the time.

As an additional limitation, if the six years' catch-up contributions came to more than the current year's earnings, there would be no tax relief on the excess.

Mr Cartwright said that a self-employed person whose earnings had dipped this year would have the option of carrying a pension contribution back, to have it treated as though it had been paid during the previous tax year.

Over-fifties can benefit from a pension ploy that used to be more profitable when tax rates were higher. Any time after their fiftieth birthday they can withdraw 25 per cent of their pension fund tax free.

A higher rate taxpayer aged over 50 could pay £10,000 into a personal pension at a cost of only £6,000 after tax relief, withdrawing £2,500 almost immediately as a tax-free lump sum, and leaving £7,500 available to buy an annuity.

Alex Cadell, aged 30, has been working for a company with a pension scheme for two years, but has not joined as she may go abroad.

ALAN WELLER

Darley-Jones: premium benefit waiver helps when ill

She opted out of Serps for 1988/89 using the National Insurance rebate of about £800 to buy units in an M&G recovery fund pension. She would like her pension to come to about two-thirds of her final salary, and would prefer a fund based wholly on equities rather than something with a property or fixed interest element.

To reach a two-thirds final salary using a personal pension, Ms Cadell should now start building up the fund at the maximum level.

Up to the age of 35, the personal pension contribution limit is 17.5 per cent. Ms Darley-Jones said: "She could afford to go into an international or UK equity fund and look at switching to a with-profits fund or cash later on." Ms Cadell is still contracted out of Serps on the basis of the policy bought from M&G, with the company automatically collecting the remaining DSS payments.

Ms Darley-Jones said that they did have certain advantages over the single premium type: most notably the waiver of premium benefit, which allows premiums to be treated as having been paid during a period of illness.

Mr Cartwright said that joining the company scheme was always the best option. He said: "You can't lose."

Portfolio

PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 32).

Share No	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Weekly Total
1	+7	+9	+2	+5	+6		
2	+8	+7	+4	+8	+5		
3	+8	+8	+4	+4	+8		
4	+9	+8	+2	+6	+6		
5	+7	+7	+4	+4	+7		
6	+6	+6	+5	+9	+4		
7	+5	+4	+5	+5	+7		
8	+8	+8	+3	+5	+6		
9	+7	+7	+2	+4	+7		
10	+8	+4	+4	+6	+8		
11	+7	+6	+5	+6	+8		
12	+9	+8	+3	+4	+7		
13	+6	+6	+5	+4	+8		
14	+6	+6	+5	+7	+5		
15	+9	+8	+1	+5	+7		
16	+8	+6	+2	+3	+6		
17	+8	+7	+1	+5	+7		
18	+9	+7	+4	+5	+6		
19	+8	+6	+4	+7	+4		
20	+9	+7	+2	+6	+7		
21	+8	+8	+3	+5	+7		
22	+7	+7	+5	+7	+4		
23	+6	+5	+5	+5	+7		
24	+6	+5	+5	+8	+4		
25	+7	+7	+2	+7	+6		
26	+8	+7	+3	+4	+8		
27	+5	+6	+6	+6	+9		
28	+7	+5	+6	+8	+4		
29	+7	+7	+3	+7	+5		
30	+8	+7	+4	+9	+4		
31	+9	+6	+3	+5	+7		
32	+7	+5	+6	+9	+4		
33	+5	+5	+6	+5	+8		
34	+8	+7	+2	+6	+6		
35	+8	+8	+1	+6	+6		
36	+6	+5	+5	+4	+9		
37	+6	+5	+5	+8	+5		
38	+6	+5	+4	+4	+8		
39	+8	+6	+2	+3	+7		
40	+6	+5	+4	+5	+8		
41	+7	+9	+3	+5	+5		
42	+7	+6	+2	+4	+8		
43	+5	+4	+7	+4	+8		
44	+7	+6	+6	+8	+4		

Visa debit cards to carry Delta mark

By LINDSAY COOK, MONEY EDITOR

VISA debit cards will be given a new look from next month to ensure they are not confused with credit cards. In addition to the blue, white and gold logo, all new debit cards will carry the Delta mark.

From March 7, credit card companies will no longer be able to stop traders charging more to credit card customers than other clientele. Under regulations laid before Parliament last month, retailers will be able to ask for an additional sum from credit card users for the service charge they pay to the credit companies on card transactions. These range from about 1 per cent of the purchase price to 4 per cent. The average is 1.6 per cent.

Banks are anxious that debit cards, first launched in the summer of 1987, are recognised as different from their credit counterparts. Visa International says that while the new mark will help clear up confusion, it was planned before dual pricing became an issue.

There are 7.5 million Visa debit cards issued by Barclays Bank, Lloyds Bank and TSB in Britain. Since Barclays launched its Connect card almost four years ago the market has expanded rapidly. In 1989 there were 60 million debit card transactions. The clearing banks expect this to increase fourteenfold by 1995.

Banks are keen for debit cards to take over from cheques, which are costly to process.

Tax advice not part of service

By MARGARET DIBBEN

INVESTORS acting on financial advice should ensure they are aware of the tax implications. As one reader in Kent found, most financial advisers are not qualified or prepared to give tax advice.

A few years ago the woman and her husband inherited some shares which they deposited with Barclayshare, Barclays' execution-only stockbroking service. They completed a questionnaire which asked, among other things, if they had previously paid any capital gains tax. They had not.

Some time later, during a telephone coversation with Barclayshare, the adviser commented that the reader's portfolio was unbalanced and recommended selling some shares and reinvesting the money in others.

The reader took it as good advice and sold the shares. This was before independent taxation, and what Barclayshare did not know was that the reader's husband, a doctor, had recently taken on an additional partner, which meant that he had had to sell some of his shares in the practice. The profits from these two sales pushed the couple above the £5,000 capital gains tax threshold and they had to pay £1,000 in tax. The reader was upset, since she had sold the shares only on Barclayshare's suggestion.

When she pointed this out to Barclayshare, she was told that it was her responsibility to check her tax liability herself or get advice from her accountant. Mike Saul, Barclayshare's chief executive, said: "My account executives are specifically briefed that they must not give tax advice. You might call it one of the limitations of the service."

Saul of Barclayshare.

He added: "If one of my people saw a portfolio which was unbalanced, I would expect them to mention it to the customer, but it is done purely in the investment sense and not in the taxation sense. Rightly or wrongly we assume that the customer understands investment and indeed capital gains tax implications."

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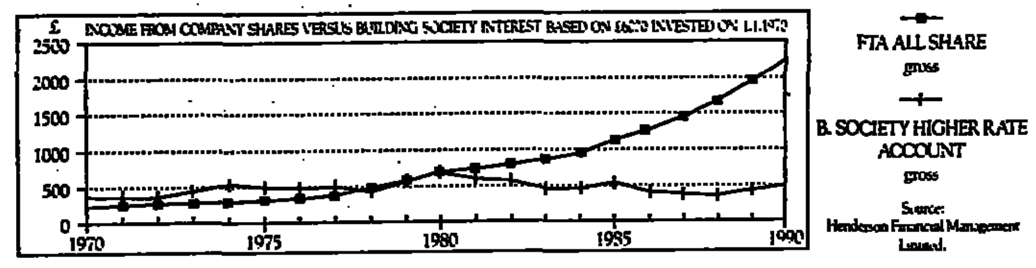

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LETTERS

Hidden managers lower standards in banks

From Cllr Robin N. Bunnage

Sir, I must back up the comments of P.B. Bryan (Weekend Money letters, February 23), as I hear two or three complaints every week of our banking system, varying from hidden charges applied, it seems, on the whim of the bank with no prior warnings, to serious errors of unwarranted cash card gobbling, failure to service requests and debiting wrong accounts.

This lowering of bank standards is I feel, due to two factors. Firstly, the habit of managers locking themselves away behind steel doors instead of being available to their clients and being replaced by "your personal banker" who has to refer all questions to someone else. A complete waste of time.

Secondly, the vast increase in the numbers employed at even the smallest branch, such that the customer, instead of having one contact has to go via many depending on his needs. I would judge the public annoyance would easily give Labour the next election if they would promise to nationalise the banks and retrain all managers in the Citizens Advice Bureau to learn what a customer is, and how to help.

Yours faithfully,
ROBIN N. BUNNAGE,
3 St Andrews Close,
Llantwit Fardre,
Pontypridd, Mid Glamorgan.

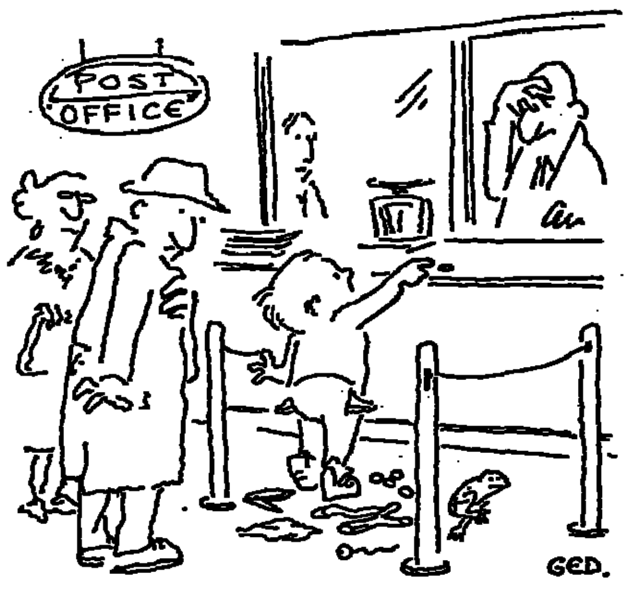
Small change

From S.E. Dillon

Sir, Alas Mrs Harrison (Weekend Money letters, February 16) is incorrect in saying "any building society is far more encouraging to small savers" than the National Savings Bank. My son was told at our local branch of the Alliance & Leicester not to bring in heaps of change on Saturday mornings as they are "very busy". The branch was otherwise devoid of customers when he was told this!

On earlier visits the cashier's faces had indicated how irritating little boys with a pound or two in small change can be to "busy" building society staff.

Yours faithfully,
S.E. DILLON,
17 Stapenhall Road,
Monkspath, Solihull.



Saving tax on Peps is pointless if investment returns are poor

From Mr Mark Dampier

Sir, I have over the last few months noticed a considerable amount of correspondence on personal equity plans (Peps), mostly adverse, and as an independent broker I felt I should try and redress the balance.

Perhaps the major problem relates more to the words "tax-free" than anything else. In this country this phrase seems to convey that an investment product must be good whatever your own circumstances. I believe this blinds people to the underlying investment. Remember there is no point in trying to save tax if the investment produces a poor return. To this end you should carefully consider your own investment philosophy before buying a Pep. For example, how many people buy direct equities, the answer very few; but how many of those people then go and buy a full Pep, which contains anything from one to six direct holdings. If they intend to buy a full Pep each year and build up an equity portfolio then this is not unreasonable. But many purchases are one-offs; if so your risk has therefore increased considerably. How many had Polly Peck in their portfolio last year? If one share within a tiny portfolio goes bust, or fares badly, then it drags down the whole Pep, and it can be difficult to turn this around.

The majority of people would be far better to concentrate on unit and investment trusts only. You may only be able to invest half the Pep allowance, but you will then be in a vehicle that will give you a much broader spread. I would usually recommend a UK income fund, because of the benefits of a tax-free rising income over the longer term.

The costs of buying a unit or investment trust Pep is normally no more than buying them without the Pep. So if you have decided to buy a UK income fund and you have not used your Pep allowance, then it makes a great deal of sense to buy it under the Pep. But think carefully about adding direct holdings to it.

Yours faithfully,
MARK DAMPIER,
Investment Director,
Whitechurch Securities Ltd,
36 Westbury Lane,
Bristol,
Avon.

Access charge

From Miss Sandra Tracey

Sir, Although it might have been wiser had Mr Campbell (Weekend Money, February 16) cancelled his original electricity direct debit with the company, doing so does not unfortunately ensure Access will not try to charge for it.

I used to pay a club subscription by Access direct debit until I cancelled it with the club 12 months ago. Unfortunately, they failed to note my instruction and requested payment from Access last October. Access paid them — despite the fact that I had cancelled my card eight months previously!

I have spent the last four months trying to convince Access that I am not going to foot the bill for their errors. Their most recent letter threatened to withdraw my credit card. How, I wonder, do they plan to do that when I returned it to them in pieces last January?

Yours faithfully,
SANDRA TRACEY,
88 Regent Street,
Watford,
Hertfordshire.

● *Letters are welcomed, but The Times regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.*

BRIEFINGS

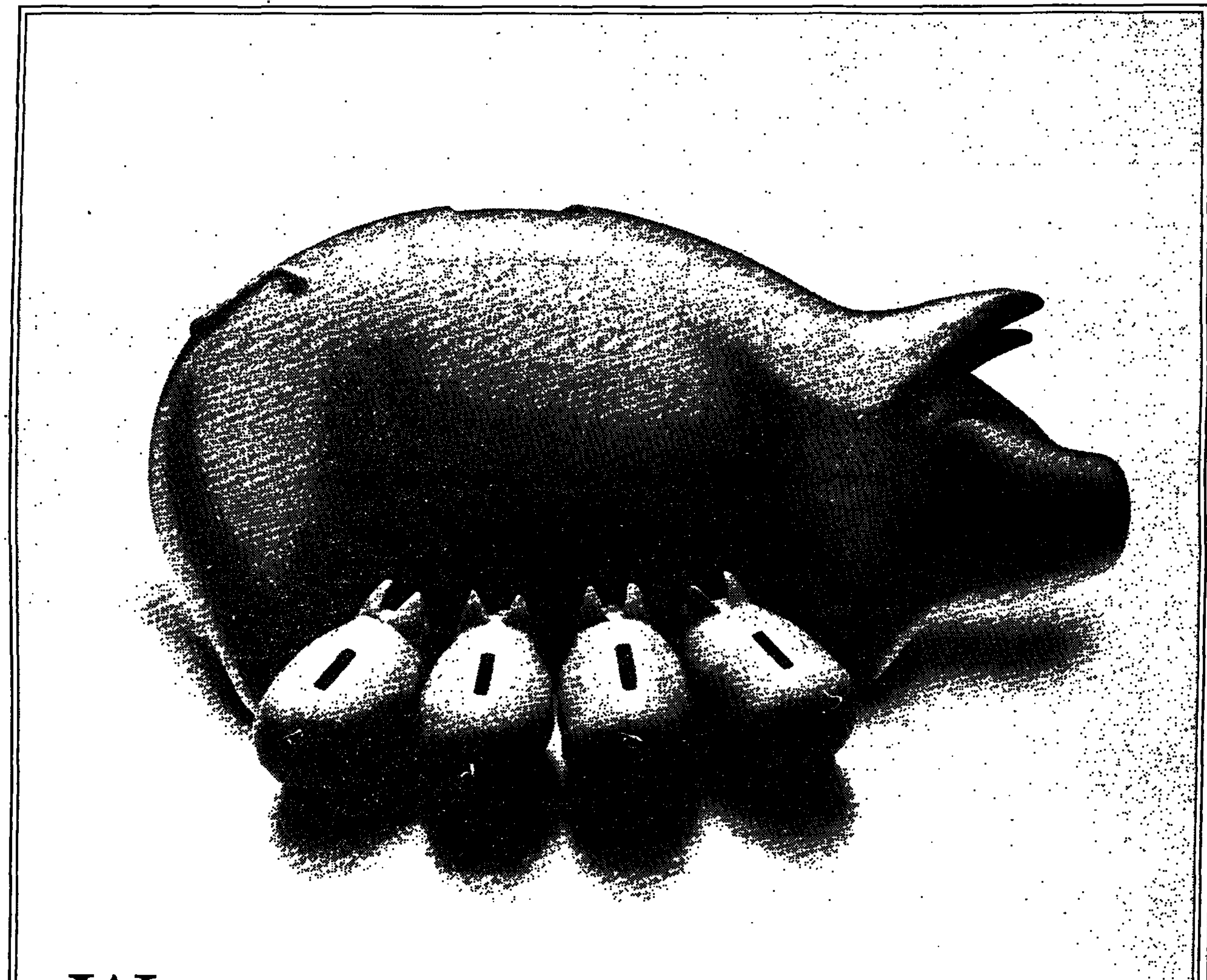
☐ Greig Middleton Finance Services has set up a five year investment plan that links a temporary annuity with an assured tenancy BES scheme. It pays 12.69 per cent net interest to higher rate taxpayers, 10.46 per cent standard rate. Investors can chose lower or higher yields depending on capital return required. Minimum investment is £10,000 and maximum, £70,200.

☐ The Chelsea Building Society is boosting interest rates on the top two tiers of its Tax Saver Plus 90 day account, which has been renamed Option 90. Net rates have been increased from 11.25 per cent to 11.4 per cent on balances over £25,000, and from 10.88 to 11.03 above £10,000.

☐ Trustees of private and charitable trusts are the principal targets of a new computer-based investment service, PFM Personal Financial Modelling. PFM suggests three types of portfolio, graded by levels of risk. The first puts new money in a specified deposit account; the second maintains bond, share and cash investments at equal levels and the third invests all but a small amount of cash in equities.

☐ A new tax exempt special savings account (*Tessa*) from Bristol & West includes a 2 per cent bonus, payable at the end of the five years on the amount invested by the end of the first year. The interest rate ranges from 8.75 per cent on balances up to £499 to 14.25 per cent on £3,000 and above.

☐ Fidelity's new *Phased Unit Trust Plan* is intended to smoothe out stockmarket volatility. Fund managers keep the investor's lump sum payment (minimum £2,500) in Fidelity's Cash Unit Trust before chosing the best time to invest it in a unit trust over a six to 12 month period. The six qualifying trusts are American, Japan, European, UK Growth, South East Asia and Managed International.



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Investors await their fate

Compensation scheme may not be backdated

By SARA MCCONNELL

INVESTORS who have collectively lost millions of pounds to fraudulent financial advisers may not be covered if the High Court decides that the industry's investor compensation scheme (ICS) does not cover losses before its introduction in August 1988.

The Securities and Investments Board (SIB) and the compensation scheme was this week planning the first step towards instituting court proceedings to decide on a definite interpretation of the rules governing payouts under the scheme. They are going to take out a construction summons in the Chancery division of the High Court.

This move follows a claim by the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers' Regulatory Association (Fimbra) that the compensation scheme, which pays out the first £48,000 of any claim, should only pay investors who lost money since the scheme started.

A court hearing is likely to take place in June and 40 investors with claims dating to March last year already face temporary suspension of their payments until the legal position is clear. If the court rules that claims cannot be retrospective, ICS will have to establish how much of each loss was sustained before the compensation scheme started and scale down payments.

Fimbra and SIB said that the total amount of payouts affected this year will probably add up to more than £9 million. Fimbra members paid £3.4 million last year to cover compensation to investors in the two years since the start of the scheme. Most of these payments would also be in question if the court ruled that the compensation scheme did not cover any investments made before August 1988.

This year's levy for Fimbra members to cover investor losses has not yet been set but is expected to be between £9 and £12 million. This includes cover for loss of between £7 and £9 million from Dunsdale Securities, financial adviser, declared in default by ICS last summer. Several other cases are also pending. Fimbra estimated that only about £2 million would have been invested after August 1988 and covered by the compensation scheme.

Anxious to pay: Michelle Williams, adviser to ICS

Michelle Williams, legal adviser to ICS said: "ICS has to go through every investor claim and some investors may have part of their claim held up. We are anxious to get on and pay and if investors put money in pre and post the August 1988 date, only funds put in before this date would be affected by the court ruling."

The Consumers's Association is concerned that while regulatory bodies wrangle about who should pay, investors are being kept waiting.

Jean Eaglesham , senior researcher at the Consumer's Association, said: "We are not going to dictate who picks up the tab, whether it is SIB or the DTI, but it is essential that people get paid and without undue delay.

"It is worrying that a problem of this magnitude should only just be emerging. The wording of the rules seems to be ambiguous. Our understanding was that it would work retrospectively."

Antony Gold, partner in Alexander Tatham, Manchester solicitors, is acting for hundreds of investors in collapsed firms. He said: "You couldn't find any investor who could begin to imagine that protection from the scheme has been superceded. If the court's decision is adverse, you can expect an outcry from investors."

He predicted that investors would rely heavily on an amendment to ICS's rules last yearthat allowed investors to be covered by the compensation scheme if they could demonstrate they believed their money was still safe on August 28, 1988.

One investor, Roger Hutchinson, said he would be relying on this amendment to'cover a loss of about £160,000 invested with Robert Carter, which went into liquidation last August.

"We are looking at this with considerable concern. We have lost all our long term money," he said.

Comment, page 30

SIB plans to drop guide for buyers

By JILL INSLEY

THE Securities and Investments Board (SIB) is proposing to scrap a buyers' guide to financial advisers, even though many investors rely on the guide to distinguish between independent advisers, tied agents and direct salesmen.

The status of an adviser is set out in a separate buyers' guide that is handed to the client to explain the difference between tied and independent salespeople.

Instead, SIB suggests that the status of a tied agent or direct salesman should be declared in the product pamphlet handed to the client.

The guide is the only piece of literature given to potential investors that explains the difference between an independent adviser, who advises on the full market,and a tied or direct salesman, who is restricted to the products of just one company.

The SIB working party's proposals are to be published in early March and the aim is to simplify the information given by insurance and investment companies' potential customers. Jane Rees, who is a member of the SIB working party and registrar of the Insurance Brokers Registration Council, says there is still time for change. She said: "We have talked about the buyers guide, but it's still up for discussion."

The working party argues that it is impossible to ensure that financial advisers give the buyers guide to clients. Concern has grown that tied agents and direct salesmen have failed to distribute the guide. A recent *Which?* survey supports these fears. Of 32 advisers questioned, only ten provided the guide to clients. Eight of those ten were independent financial advisers. However, the association has criticised proposals that the guide should be dropped altogether.

Jean Eaglesham, senior researcher for the Consumers' Association, says declarations of status in product details would mean status clarification would be handed to the client too late in the interview to be of any help.

Independent financial advisers are also worried that scrapping the guide may lead to confusion about the status of some advisers.

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Please remember that the value of shares and the income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. References to taxation relate to current rules which are liable to change in the future and the values of tax relief depend on personal circumstances. Until 5 April 1991 any interest earned will be subject to Composite Rate Tax.

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** Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return) ● Ex dividend. c Cum dividend. k Cum stock split. s Ex stock split. m Cum all (any two or more of above). a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday. (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday.

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● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

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[illegible]

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 93.7 (day's range 93.7-93.8).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Mar 1	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.8995-1.9045	1.8995-1.9005	1.00-0.98pr	2.68-2.60pr
Montrl	2.1842-2.1932	2.1892-2.1932	0.64-0.56pr	1.18-1.08pr
Amstrdm	3.2804-3.2925	3.2804-3.2841	1¼-1pr	2⅞-2⅝pr
Brussels	59.82-60.24	59.82-60.04	20-17pr	51-44pr
Copnhgn	11.1767-11.2235	11.1767-11.2015	3⅛-2⅞pr	7¼-6⅞pr
Dublin	1.0928-1.0944	1.0928-1.0938	23-18pr	51-41pr
Frankft	2.9135-2.9203	2.9135-2.9169	1-⅞pr	2⅞-2⅝pr
Lisbon	254.12-256.06	254.15-255.24	18-39ds	101-161ds
Madrid	181.12-182.12	181.12-181.78	16-26ds	56-70ds
Milan	2174.73-2181.60	2175.88-2178.92	1pr-par	2pr-par
Oslo	11.3780-11.4194	11.3780-11.4030	2⅛-1⅞pr	5⅛-4⅞pr
Paris	9.9172-9.9441	9.9230-9.9377	3⅝-3⅜pr	8⅛-7⅞pr
Stckhlm	10.7966-10.8557	10.7968-10.8214	1⅛-⅞pr	1⅞-1⅝pr
Tokyo	255.05-255.78	255.10-255.43	1⅛-⅞pr	2⅞-2⅝pr
Vienna	20.47-20.56	20.47-20.50	7⅛-6⅞pr	18⅞-16⅞pr
Zurich	2.5235-2.5349	2.5235-2.5267	1⅛-⅞pr	2⅞-2⅝pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	18933.0-19000.0
Australia dollar	2.4213-2.4246
Bahrain dinar	n/a
Brazil cruzeiro *	424.90-425.50
Cyprus pound	0.828-0.836
Finland marka	7.01-7.07
Greece drachma	312.65-315.85
Hong Kong dollar	14.8067-14.8184
India rupee	36.16-36.56
Kuwait dinar KD	n/a
Malaysia ringgit	5.1737-5.1784
Mexico peso	5625-5725
New Zealand dollar	3.1613-3.1664
Saudi Arabia riyal	n/a
Singapore dollar	3.2879-3.2918
S Africa rand (fin)	6.0253-6.1255
S Africa rand (com)	4.9096-4.9179
U A E dirham	n/a

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.7355-1.7370
Singapore	1.7305-1.7315
Malaysia	2.7230-2.7240
Australia	1.2743-1.2755
Canada	1.1512-1.1522
Sweden	5.6950-5.7000
Norway	5.9950-6.0000
Denmark	5.8930-5.8980
W Germany	1.5370-1.5377
Switzerland	1.3285-1.3295
Netherlands	1.7315-1.7325
France	5.2325-5.2375
Japan	134.27-134.34
Italy	1148.0-1149.0
Belgium (Com)	31.57-31.62
Hong Kong	7.7930-7.7940
Portugal	134.20-134.40
Spain	95.70-95.89
Austria	10.77-10.79

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 13 Finance Hse 14

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 13 Low 10 Week fixed: 13

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buying: 2 mth 12⁹⁄₁₆ ; 3 mth 11¹⁵⁄₁₆. Selling: 2 mth 12⁷⁄₁₆ ; 3 mth: 11¹³⁄₁₆.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	12¹⁹⁄₃₂-12⁹⁄₁₆	12¾-12⁹⁄₁₆	12-11¹⁵⁄₁₆	11⁵⁄₁₆-11¾	
Trade Bills (Dis):	13⁷⁄₃₂	12⅞	12¾	11¹⁵⁄₁₆	
Interbank:	13¼-13³⁄₁₆	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-12⅞	12¾-12¹¹⁄₁₆	12⁹⁄₃₂-12⅜	11¹³⁄₁₆-11⅝
(Overnight: open 13⅜, close 2.					
Local Authority Deps:	13⅜	n/a	12¹¹⁄₁₆	12⅜	11⅝
Sterling CDs:	13³⁄₁₆-13⅛	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-¹³⁄₁₆	12⅝-12½	12³⁄₁₆-¹⁄₁₆	11¹¹⁄₁₆-⁹⁄₁₆
Dollar CDs:	7.00-6.95	6.92-6.87	6.90-6.85	6.88-6.83	7.15-7.10
Building Society CDs:	13⁷⁄₃₂-13⁵⁄₃₂	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-¹³⁄₁₆	12⅝-12½	12⁹⁄₃₂-⁷⁄₃₂	11⅝-11½

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6½-6⅜	6¹⁵⁄₁₆-6⅞	6¹⁵⁄₁₆-6⅞	6⅞-6¹¹⁄₁₆	6⅜-5⅞
Deutschemark:	9⅝-8⅞	9¹⁄₁₆-8¹⁵⁄₁₆	9⅛-9	9⅛-9	8½-7½
French Franc:	9⁵⁄₁₆-9¹⁄₁₆	9⁵⁄₁₆-9³⁄₁₆	9⁷⁄₁₆-9⁵⁄₁₆	9½-9⅜	9½-8½
Swiss Franc:	8⁷⁄₁₆-8³⁄₁₆	8⅝-8½	8⁵⁄₁₆-8³⁄₁₆	8³⁄₁₆-8¹⁄₁₆	8-7
Yen:	8⅝-8⅜	8⁹⁄₁₆-8⁷⁄₁₆	8⅛-8⅜	7¹⁵⁄₁₆-¹³⁄₁₆	7¼-6¾

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $367.00-367.50 Close: $366.00-366.50 High: $367.30-367.80 Low: $366.00-366.50 Krugerrand: $366.00-368.00 (£192.00-194.00)

Sovereigns: Old $94.00-95.50 (£49.00-50.00) New $88.00-89.50 (£46.00-47.00)

Platinum: $405.85 (£213.45) Silver: $3.76 (£1.975) Palladium: $86.25 (£45.40)

TREASURY BILLS: Applicts: £718m allotted: £350m; Bids: £97.085% received: 74%; Last week: £96.980% received: 77%; Avge rate: £11.8831% last wk £12.0616%; Next week: £350m.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 37102	Mar 91	2382.0	2400.0	2377.0	2394.0	8421
	Jun 91	2419.0	2436.0	2417.0	2432.0	2049
	Sep 91				2465.0	0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 190550	Mar 91	87.62	87.69	87.61	87.67	10147
	Jun 91	88.78	88.80	88.72	88.77	12464
	Sep 91	89.36	89.37	89.25	89.27	3277
Three Month Eurodollar Previous open interest: 43696	Mar 91	93.08	93.09	93.02	93.09	1988
	Jun 91	93.18	93.19	93.08	93.19	5636
Three Month Euro DM Previous open interest: 85953	Mar 91	90.85	90.88	90.84	90.87	3246
	Jun 91	91.05	91.11	91.03	91.11	8867
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest: 4355	Mar 91	95-21	95-24	95-10	95-21	1005
	Jun 91	95-03	96-04	94-18	95-00	3625
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 45727	Mar 91	91-17	91-26	91-10	91-19	8510
	Jun 91	92-02	92-08	91-24	92-07	21339
Japanese Govt Bond Previous open interest: 842	Mar 91	95.80	95.80	95.02	95.18	81
	Jun 91	96.69	95.70	95.35	95.45	268
German Govt Bond Previous open interest: 33413	Mar 91	86.20	85.29	85.01	85.14	38780
	Jun 91	85.40	85.52	85.28	85.39	13625
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 2750	Mar 91	90.44	90.44	90.42	90.44	81
	Jun 91	90.70	90.72	90.70	90.73	65

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX

COCOA		COFFEE		SUGAR (FOB) C Czarnikow	
Mar	602-600	Mar	524-523	May	208.0-07.0
May	633-632	May	548-547	Aug	202.2-00.0
Jul	663-662	Jul	564-563	Oct	199.0-95.0
Sep	687-686	Sep	584-583	Dec	200.0-97.8
Dec	717-716	Nov	601-599	Mar	198.0-95.8
Mar	743-741	Jan	616-613	May	200.0-97.8
May	768-762	Mar	632-625		
Vol: 5054		Vol: 3764		Vol: 1860	

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT Close (£/t)		BARLEY Close (£/t)		HI-PRO SOYA Close (£/t)	
Mar	127.70	Mar	116.30	Apr	116.0-15.0
May	131.00	May	120.20	Jun	113.5-13.0
Jun	132.80	Sep	107.35	Aug	117.0-16.0
Sep	110.30	Nov	111.25	Oct	120.0-19.0
Nov	113.50	Jan	114.30	Dec	125.0-23.0
Vol:	828	Vol:	175	Vol:	180

LONDON POTATO FUTURES Volume: 70

	Open	Close
Apr (£/tonne)	124.0	124.0
May	145.0	146.5

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 1

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	88.33	148.34	107.08
(+/–)	+2.09	*+6.00	–0.26
Eng/Wales:	88.33	148.92	106.03
(+/–)	+2.09	+4.98	–0.40
(%)	+0.8	+13.4	–13.1
Scotland:	n/a	151.56	111.71
(+/–)	n/a	+9.94	+0.32
(%)	n/a	–38.1	–11.2

* Estimated dead carcase weight

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (£/kg)

Feb	
Open:	unq
Close:	113.5
Mar	
Open:	unq
Close:	111.7
Apr	
Open:	unq
Close:	111.0
Volume: 63	

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR) - London 6.00pm: After all the excitement of the past few weeks, oil prices drifted lower in thin and uninspired trading.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.25	–0.15
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.50	–0.10
Brent 15 day (May)	17.80	–0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	19.00	–0.40
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.60	–0.40

PRODUCTS (Buy/sell $/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas 1.5	237 (-5)	242 (-5)
Gasoil EEC	190 (n/c)	195 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Mar	197 (+2)	198 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Apr	172 (-3)	177 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	70 (+1)	72 (+1)
Naphtha	220 (-3)	225 (-3)

IPE FUTURES
GAS OIL

Mar	180.50-80.25	Jul	160.75-60.00
Apr	168.25-66.00	Aug	162.00-60.00
May	161.50-60.00	Sep	163.50-63.00
Jun	158.00-57.00		Vol: 5339

BRENT

Mar	19.15-19.25	May	17.55-17.65
Apr	18.45-18.55		Vol: n/a

BIFFEX
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 91	1635	1615	1618
Apr 91	1465	1447	1447
Jul 91	1156	1145	1145
Oct 91	1240	1240	1237

Vol: 269 lots Open interest: 4370
Dry cargo index: 1707 +3

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
(Official) (Volume prev day)

	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1310.0-1311.0	1302.0-1303.0	Vol: 734150
Lead (£/tonne)	313.50-313.75	325.50-326.00	94500
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1214.0-1215.0	1203.0-1204.0	130200
Tin ($/tonne)	5596.0-5597.0	5695.0-5700.0	8290
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1535.0-1536.0	1564.0-1565.0	512800
Nickel ($/tonne):	8540.0-8550.0	8545.0-8550.0	15258

FOX MGMI INDEX (Spm prices)

	Bid	Offer
Mar	158.50	159.00
Apr	158.50	159.00
May	158.30	158.70
		Vol: 530

England's dominance fails to reward in the home countries' hockey opener

Morgan inspires an upset

By Alix Ramsay

IF THIS is the England women's team's preparation for the European Cup, it seems a funny way of going about it. In the opening game of the home countries' international at Durham yesterday, they were beaten 1-0 by a Welsh team supposedly flexing its muscles for the first time after spending the winter under wraps.

England could have won. With ten penalty corners and almost total domination of the play, they should have won, but time and again they failed in front of goal.

They varied the routine for the corners, using both Vickey Dixon and Jill Atkins, but nothing worked. Instead, it was Helen Morgan who shone in the Welsh goal, making some excellent stops.

In the second half, Sue Slocombe, the England coach, tried to inject purpose into her team by bringing on Karen Brown and Sue Chandler. For a while it seemed to work, with Brown unlucky not to score with her first touch and Chandler missing two good chances.

But after 65 minutes, Wales went ahead. A clearance by Jill Atkins was picked up and, given one of their few chances, Wales made the most of it as Helen Jones scored an impressive goal with a reverse stick flick over the goalkeeper.

The goal pushed England on with renewed vigour, but they could not pull a goal back. Afterwards, Slocombe admitted to being disappointed. "We played some exciting hockey and created lots of goal scoring chances," she said. "We were denied the victory we deserved by some outstanding goalkeeping."

However, if England cannot score goals they will not win championships.

It was a different story as Scotland beat Ireland 2-1, with all the action in the first half. Ireland could not find their feet for the first quarter of an hour and by that time were already two goals down.

Susan Fraser had missed a penalty stroke for the Scots before Susan McDonald hit the target with a strike from the edge of the circle after 11 minutes. Two minutes later, Fraser scored a superb solo goal, running half the length of the pitch to catch the goalkeeper with her near post uncovered.

Ireland managed to recover their composure and slowly found their rhythm, stringing some better attacking moves together. It paid off a minute before half-time, as Rachel Flanagan pulled a goal back.

Janet Nimmo missed a second penalty stroke for Scotland after the break, but by then Ireland were looking the better side and it was only Sue Lawrie, in the Scottish goal, who prevented the draw.

RESULTS: Wales 1, England 0; Scotland 2, Ireland 1.

ENGLAND: J Thompson; S Lister, J Atkins, V Dixon, L Bayliss, F Lee (sub: S Chandler), M Nevill, J Lewis, K Johnson, J Sixsmith, T Miller (sub: K Brown).

WALES: H Morgan; H Jones, J Bull, K Roderick, H Thomas, F McCarthy, S Crawley, L Watkin, S Jones, M Williams, D Craven (sub: A Jones).

SCOTLAND: S Lawrie; M Coutts, M McLeod, J Nimmo, S Fraser, A Ramsay, L Forsyth (sub: E Murray), P Robertson, S Duncan, A Menzies (sub: S Bissett), S McDonald.

IRELAND: F Brehony; D Courtney (sub: J Turner), D Dessey, R Flanagan, B Heffernan, T Hurley, M Logue, E McDermott, G McKee, F Marshall, O Bell (sub: S Kelleher).

NICK GAY

Leading from the front: Sandra Lister, the England captain, on the burst against Wales in Durham yesterday

St Albans face tough task

By Sydney Friskin

ST ALBANS are somewhat unprepared, mainly because of the recent bad weather, for two important matches. They are away at **Southgate** in the Poundstretcher National League today and at home tomorrow to **Hounslow** in the fourth round of the Nationwide Anglia Cup.

Upsets over two more favoured sides on successive days could, by St Albans's own reckoning, be an achievement of outrageous fortune. This is not to say that they are incapable of doing it. Indeed, in the league, they achieved a 4-3 win over Hounslow.

There are no complications in the St Albans defence except that Wisher, because of indoor commitments to England, has played no outdoor hockey since December. Nor has Halliday, although he managed to train in midweek. Their attack will be built around Anderson, the centre forward, with Gibbins and Halliday in support.

Sean Kerly returns from indoor activities to a Southgate combination of youth and experience. Having been knocked out of the cup by East Grinstead, Southgate have comparatively light work tomorrow in a Middlesex Cup away match against **Hampstead and Westminster**.

Hounslow have a couple of problems to solve in defence as Bolland, with hamstring trouble, and Swayne, with a knee injury, are out of action. However, the attack is reinforced by the return of Rees, now restored to better health, for today's league fixture against **East Grinstead** at Feltham and the cup match at St Albans tomorrow.

Havant, the first division leaders, face a home game today against **Old Loughtonians** without the injured Avery, whose absence may weaken the front line. They are also at home tomorrow for a cup match against **Guildford**.

Davinder Rehncy, the **Indian Gymkhana** captain, left the field at practice on Tuesday with a broken nose. The injury will not prevent him from playing in today's league match against **Bromley** at Feltham. Gymkhana, unbeaten in the league, have qualified for the fifth round of the cup, where on March 9 they await the winners of tomorrow's postponed fourth round match between Old Loughtonians and East Grinstead.

Cannock are expecting to get past **Formby** in the fifth round of the cup tomorrow at Skelmersdale, but will continue their search for points in today's league match against **Slough** at Wexham School, to ease their relegation worries. After their away league match at **Wakefield** today, **Welton** have to leave hurriedly for Ottery St Mary in Exeter to take on **Isca** in a cup match tomorrow morning.

Dalglish falls victim of tunnel vision

LAURA THOMPSON

As I watched the re-runs of *The Manageress* on Channel 4, I began to ponder what Gwendolen in *The Importance of Being Earnest* calls "a metaphysical speculation": to wit, how should I fare at Anfield?

Imaginings leapt about my head like antelopes as I saw myself having perceptive discussions on the touchline with John Barnes, spotting a world-class defender at Witton Albion, re-arranging the team in ways nobody else had ever thought of, charming the boardroom, going to Sandra Beardsley's coffee mornings, smashing Arsenal into submission and garnering the headline: "Rush scores at Old Trafford! 'I did it for the boss,' says Ian."

By the end of *The Manageress* last week, I was forced to conclude that I was made of weaker stuff than Gabriella Benson. She is a remarkable woman. That club of hers is going straight into the first division and it is all her doing. For the sake of realism, the script demands that she lose one argument in ten, but even then, deep down, she is in the right.

She is a cross between a Cindy doll and Mrs Thatcher, hoovering her way through domains of maleness like boardrooms and football supporters' clubs, shaming their inhabitants into line with a twitch of her eyebrows and a flick of her quick-witted tongue.

That even someone as unreal as Gabriella finds her job difficult at times implies that it is, in fact, almost impossible. I have directed plays and I imagine that this has something in common with being a football manager.

The way in which grown men don metaphorical babygros when somebody is there to take decisions for them; being held responsible for a product over which one has ultimately no control; having to deal with sulking, moaning, inadequacies and tantrums, on the dubious grounds that these are the products of talent and "pressure"; having to stand in a dressing room and act confident and omniscient when one feels like sticking a rusk in one's mouth and hiding under bedclothes; having people gang up on one as the representative "authority figure"; having to field monetary demands which come at one from all angles, like St Sebastian and his arrows; never being able to get depressed lest one sap "team morale"; being at the mercy of newspapers.

Gabriella has this sort of thing coming at her all the time. How does she deal with it? Partly, by being Wonder Woman (if it comes to it, I am confident that she can play striker for that chap she had to sell last week), but also — and this is where the series becomes interesting — she deals with things by not being a part of them.

In a feminist version of the *Twelve Labours of Hercules*, each episode sees her applying her lacquered blowtorch to a different problematical facet of the footballing world — the Shady Boardroom Deal, the Misbehaving Player, the Money-Grabbing Agent, and so on. Each week, she turns over one of these unwieldy stones with the toe of her pink trainers and swats the toad beneath with her little Chanel bag.

It is a fantasy but not because Gabriella is a woman, although that enables the fantasy. It is because she clears up all these huge problems simply by bringing them a different perspective. She does not have to adhere to the dictum that, because things have always been done in a certain way, they must always be done in a certain way. She is not bound by the male footballing ethos which is frequently shown by the series to be restrictive, old-fashioned and wasteful.

The prime principle of the male footballing ethos is that the game must be taken deadly seriously. From this first law, all else proceeds. I have never been able to see why one cannot love something without taking it deadly seriously. For example, I know that I should now be a better theatre director for having acquired some perspective on it.

However, if I say this about football, men shake their heads and tell me that I do not understand. I understand very well that the footballing ethos is in conflict with the sporting ethos when Ronnie Moran says, as he did after Liverpool lost to Everton last Wednesday, that he would rather the team had played badly and won than played well and lost.

The totemic significance of Liverpool FC, the way in which words like "boot-room" and "Kop" are gritted out and received with "enough said" type nods, is something that Gabriella would never accept so unquestioningly. Nobody connected with the club should assume that Liverpool is entitled to its supremacy. However, an unbreakable cycle is in motion whereby Liverpool expects things of itself and newspapers go along with it, making it impossible for the team to lower its standards without a comparison with Aristotelian tragedy.

I think that Kenny Dalglish over-subscribed to the Liverpool Myth. "Look at his poor face," my mother used to say as he stood in the dug-out, screaming at his team in miserable hysteria, willing them to be invincible. He was never in a position to acquire perspective on either the game of football or the Liverpool team. He just tunnelled his way along. Celtic player then Liverpool player then Liverpool manager, so much the right man for the job that he was the wrong man for the job.

His resignation came at a time when perhaps he was having to grapple with the fact that the Liverpool Myth was merely a myth; that they were nothing more than an excellent, fallible football team.

ROWING

Downing go down to LMBC

By a Correspondent

LADY Margaret went down again in the Cambridge Lents yesterday. They were caught by Downing. Trinity Hall rowed-over at the top.

Men

FIRST DIVISION: Downing bpd LMBC; Jesus bpd Pembroke; Selwyn bpd Emmanuel; LMBC II bpd St Catharine's.

SECOND DIVISION: Fitzwilliam bpd Jesus II; Robinson overbpd Caius II; Downing II bpd Pembroke II; King's bpd Selwyn II; Corpus Christi bpd LMBC III; Jesus III bpd Clare II.

THIRD DIVISION: Trinity Hall II bpd Emmanuel II; Magdalene II bpd Churchill II; Clare III bpd Peterhouse II; Corpus Christi II bpd LMBC IV; Girton II bpd Churchill III; Veterinary School bpd 1st and 3rd Trinity III.

FOURTH DIVISION: Trinity Hall III bpd LMBC V; Addenbrooke's bpd St Catharine's II; CCAT bpd Selwyn III; Queens' III bpd Christ's III; Wolfson bpd Sidney Sussex II; Robinson II bpd Pembroke III.

FIFTH DIVISION: Emmanuel III bpd Jesus IV; Corpus Christi III bpd 1st and 3rd Trinity IV; Queens' V bpd Girton III; Trinity Hall IV bpd Sidney Sussex III; Churchill IV bpd Magdalene IV; Trinity Hall V bpd Emmanuel IV.

Women

FIRST DIVISION: Newnham bpd Jesus; New Hall bpd Churchill; Selwyn bpd Christ's.

SECOND DIVISION: Robinson bpd Homerton; Jesus II bpd Fitzwilliam; Corpus Christi bpd Newnham II; Peterhouse bpd LMBC II; CCAT bpd Clare II; New Hall II bpd Churchill II; Emmanuel II bpd Addenbrooke's.

THIRD DIVISION: Wolfson bpd LMBC III; Selwyn III bpd Caius II; Sidney Sussex II bpd St Edmund's House; St Catharine's II bpd Christ's II; Homerton II bpd 1st and 3rd Trinity II; Girton III bpd Robinson II; Corpus Christi II bpd Pembroke II.

Starting order today

Men

FIRST DIVISION: 1, Trinity Hall; 2, Downing; 3, LMBC; 4, Jesus; 5, Pembroke; 6, Caius; 7, 1st and 3rd Trinity; 8, Selwyn; 9, Emmanuel; 10, Churchill; 11, Queens'; 12, Magdalene; 13, Clare; 14, Christ's; 15, LMBC II; 16, St Catharine's.

SECOND DIVISION: 1, Fitzwilliam; 2, Jesus II; 3, 1st and 3rd Trinity II; 4, Robinson; 5, Downing II; 6, Pembroke II; 7, Caius II; 8, Peterhouse; 9, King's; 10, Selwyn II; 11, Girton; 12, Sidney Sussex; 13, Corpus Christi; 14, LMBC III; 15, Jesus III; 16, Clare II.

THIRD DIVISION: 1, Trinity Hall II; 2, Emmanuel II; 3, Magdalene II; 4, Churchill II; 5, Queens' II; 6, Christ's II; 7, Fitzwilliam II; 8, Clare III; 9, Peterhouse II; 10, Darwin; 11, Corpus Christi II; 12, LMBC IV; 13, Girton II; 14, Churchill III; 15, Veterinary School; 16, 1st and 3rd Trinity III.

FOURTH DIVISION: 1, Magdalene III; 2, Trinity Hall III; 3, LMBC V; 4, Addenbrooke's; 5, St Catharine's II; 6, CCAT; 7, Selwyn III; 8, King's II; 9, Queens' III; 10, Christ's III; 11, Wolfson; 12, Sidney Sussex II; 13, Caius III; 14, Downing III; 15, Robinson II; 16, Pembroke III.

FIFTH DIVISION: 1, Emmanuel III; 2, Jesus IV; 3, Corpus Christi III; 4, 1st and 3rd Trinity IV; St Catharine's III, Queens' IV, and Christ's IV rerow today 8, Queens' V; 9, Girton III; 10, Trinity Hall IV; 11, Sidney Sussex III; 12, Churchill IV; 13, Magdalene IV; 14, Selwyn IV; 15, Trinity Hall V; 16, Emmanuel IV; 17, LMBC VI; 18, Corpus Christi IV.

Women

FIRST DIVISION: 1, LMBC; 2, Emmanuel; 3, Caius; 4, Newnham; 5, Jesus; 6, Trinity Hall; 7, New Hall; 8, Churchill; Clare, Queens', Sidney Sussex, and St Catharine's rerow today; 13, Selwyn; 14, Christ's; Girton, Downing, and 1st and 3rd Trinity rerow.

SECOND DIVISION: 1, Pembroke; 2, Robinson; 3, Homerton; 4, Jesus II; 5, Fitzwilliam; 6, CMABC; 7, Corpus Christi; 8, Newnham II; 9, Peterhouse; 10, LMBC II; 11, CCAT; 12, Clare II; 13, Magdalene; 14, New Hall II; 15, Churchill II; 16, Emmanuel II; 17, Addenbrooke's.

THIRD DIVISION: 1, Girton II; 2, Wolfson; 3, LMBC III; 4, Selwyn III; 5, Caius II; 6, Darwin; 7, Sidney Sussex II; 8, St Edmund's House; 9, St Catharine's II; 10, Christ's II; 11, Homerton II; 12, 1st and 3rd Trinity II; 13, Queens' II; 14, Girton III; 15, Robinson II; 16, Newnham III; 17, Corpus Christi II, 18, Pembroke II.

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

3.0 unless stated

Barclays League
First division

Coventry v C Palace
Derby Co v Sunderland
Luton v Nottingham F
Manchester U v Everton
QPR v Manchester City
Sheffield Utd v Aston Villa
Southampton v Leeds (all ticket)
Tottenham v Chelsea (all ticket)
Wimbledon v Norwich

Second division

Barnsley v Watford
Blackburn v Swindon
Brighton v Oldham
Bristol R v Millwall
Charlton v Bristol C
Hull v Middlesbrough (all ticket)
Ipswich v Wolves
Newcastle v Leicester
Notts Co v Sheffield Wed
Oxford v Portsmouth
Plymouth v Port Vale
WBA v West Ham

Third division

Birmingham v Swansea
Bournemouth v Chester
Bury v Wigan
Fulham v Reading
Mansfield v Grimsby
Shrewsbury v Preston
Stoke v Exeter

Fourth division

Aldershot v Doncaster
Blackpool v Hereford
Carlisle v Wrexham
Darlington v Stockport
Gillingham v Chesterfield
Halifax v Walsall
Hartlepool v Torquay
Peterborough v Maidstone
Rochdale v Northampton
Scarborough v Lincoln
Scunthorpe v York

GM Vauxhall Conference

Altrincham v Wycombe
Barnet v Runcorn
Barrow v Slough
Colchester v Bath
Fisher v Stafford
Kidderminster v Yeovil
Macclesfield v Cheltenham
Northwich v Boston
Sutton Utd v Merthyr
Welling v Telford

Vauxhall League
Premier division

Basingstoke v Harrow
Bognor v Marlow
Carshalton v Hayes
Dagenham v Bishop's Stortford
Enfield v Staines
Hendon v Kingstonian
Leyton-Wingate v Redbridge F
St Albans v Windsor and E
Wivenhoe v Aylesbury
Woking v Grays
Wokingham v Barking

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: First division: Dorking v Metropolitan Police; Dulwich v Lewes; Harlow v Chesham; Heybridge v Wembley; Hitchin v Chalfont St Peter; Molesey v Bromley; Southwick v Aveley; Tooting and Mitcham v Whyteleafe; Uxbridge v Boreham Wood; Worthing v Walton and Hersham; Yeading v Croydon. Second division north: Barton v Berkhamsted; Billericay v Hornchurch; Collier Row v Saffron Walden; Finchley v Hertford; Kingsbury v Tring; Royston v Clapton; Stevenage v Edgware; Tilbury v Purfleet; Ware v Rainham; Witham v Basildon. Second division south: Bracknell v Epsom and Ewell; Camberley v Cove; Chertsey v Horsham; Eastbourne United v Banstead; Egham v Hampton; Feltham v Flackwell Heath; Harefield v Abingdon United; Malden Vale v Hungerford; Newbury v Leatherhead; Petersfield v Maidenhead United; Ruislip Manor v Southall.

FA VASE: Fifth Round: Buckingham v Guiseley; Hythe v Trowbridge; Littlehampton v Great Harwood; Harwich and Parkeston v Gresley.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena v Glentoran; Bangor v Crusaders; Carrick v Ards; Cliftonville v Coleraine; Distillery v Larne; Linfield v Omagh; Portadown v Ballyclare.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Everton v Manchester United (2.0).
OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Portsmouth v Oxford (2.0).

Tennents Scottish Cup
Fourth round

Morton v Meadowbank

B and Q Scottish League
Premier division

Aberdeen v Rangers
Celtic v St Johnstone
Dundee Utd v Dunfermline
Hibernian v St Mirren
Motherwell v Hearts

First division

Airdrie v Dundee
Ayr Utd v Raith
Brechin v Hamilton
Falkirk v Clyde
Partick v Forfar

Second division

Alloa v Montrose
Arbroath v Stirling
Cowdenbeath v Albion
Dumbarton v East Fife
Queen's Park v Queen of South
Stenhousemuir v E Stirling
Stranraer v Berwick

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Poole; Bromsgrove v Crawley; Cambridge City v Worcester; Chelmsford v Bashley; Dartford v Burton; Gravesend and Northfleet v Halesowen; Rushden v Gloucester; Waterlooville v Dover; Wealdstone v Dorchester. Midland division: Bedworth v Sutton Coldfield; Bridgnorth v Willenhall; Corby v Bilston; Dudley v Barry; Grantham v RC Warwick; Hednesford v Stroud; Leicester United v Alvechurch; Newport AFC v Nuneaton; Redditch v King's Lynn; Stourbridge v Spalding. Southern division: Andover v Burnham; Ashford v Canterbury; Baldock v Sudbury; Bury v Yate; Gosport Borough v Dunstable; Margate v Fareham; Newport IoW v Hastings; Salisbury v Corinthian; Witney v Erith and Belvedere.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop Auckland v Shepshed; Buxton v Fleetwood; Chorley v Leek; Droylsden v Matlock; Goole v Marine; Morecambe v Hyde; Mossley v Horwich; South Liverpool v Gainsborough; Southport v Witton; Stalybridge v Frickley. First division: Accrington Stanley v Radcliffe; Caernarfon v Workington; Eastwood Town v Lancaster; Curzon Ashton v Bridlington Town; Farsley v Warrington; Newtown v Irlam; Rhyl v Rossendale; Winsford v Harrogate Town; Alfreton v Congleton.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Brandon v Northallerton; Peterlee Newtown v Shildon; Guisborough v Gretna; Seaham Red Star v Whitby; South Bank v Alnwick; Tow Law v Stockton; Whickham v Blyth.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chard v Clevedon; Chippenham v Barnstaple; Frome v Saltash; Mangotsfield v Dawlish; Radstock v Liskeard; Torrington v Bristol Manor Farm; Welton v Ottery St Mary; Weston-super-Mare v Taunton.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Ashton v Salford; Leyland DAF v Eastwood Hanley; Nantwich v Bacup Borough; Skelmersdale v Knowsley; Clitheroe v Bootle.

WEEKLY WINNER LEAGUE: Premier division: North Ferriby v Belper; North Shields v Harrogate Railway; Ossett Town v Denaby; Pontefract Collieries v Brigg; Sutton Town v Armthorpe Welfare; Thackley v Ossett Albion; Winterton Rangers v Maltby MW.

SCHOOLS UNDER-15 INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Scotland v Northern Ireland (Petershill, 2.0); Wales v Republic of Ireland (Abertillery, 11.0).

ABACUS LEAGUE: National division: Ammanford v Haverfordwest; Bridgend v Briton Ferry; Cwmbran v Ton Pentre; Maesteg v Port Talbot; Pembroke v Llanelli.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Arthur Dunn Cup: Semi-finals: Old Carthusians v Old Brentwoods; Old Reptonians v Lancing Old Boys. Premier division: Old Chigwellians v Old Wellingburians; Old Salopians v Old Foresters. First division: Old Haileyburians v Old Etonians; Old Westminsters v Old Harrovians; Old Wykehamists v Old Bradfieldians.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Chelsea; Cambridge United v Gillingham; Millwall v Leyton Orient; Norwich v Southend; Portsmouth v Fulham; Queen's Park Rangers v Tottenham; West Ham v Watford. Second division: Bristol Rovers v Bristol City; Crystal Palace v Brighton; Colchester v Wimbledon; Maidstone United v Bournemouth; Oxford United v Swindon; Reading v Brentford; Southampton v Aldershot; Tottenham v Luton.

BASKETBALL

COCA-COLA NATIONAL CUP (London Arena): Men: Semi-finals: Leicester v Thames Valley (6.0); Kingston v Sunderland (8.0). Junior Men: Final: East London v Leicester (4.0).

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Men: Second division: Brixton v Plymouth (2.0); Oldham v Middlesbrough (6.0). Third division: Barnsley v Cardiff (6.0). Women: First division: Manchester v Northampton. Second division: Swindon v Hemel Hempstead (6.0).

CARLSBERG SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Men: Second division: Inverclyde v Bruins (Greenock SC, 6.30).

BOWLS

HAVEN-COMMERCIAL UNION INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-finals (Lawson Park, Bedford, 2.0): Hartlepool v Cambridge Park; Bristol v City of Ely.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Ayr v Whitley (7.0); Cardiff v Peterborough (6.30); Fife v Durham (7.15); Nottingham v Cleveland (6.30); Solihull v Murrayfield (7.0). First division: Glasgow v Romford (4.45); Medway v Humberside (5.15); Slough v Basingstoke (5.45); Swindon v Telford (5.0); Trafford v Lee Valley (5.30). **ENGLISH LEAGUE:** Sheffield v Chelmsford (5.30); Sunderland v Oxford (5.30). **UNIVERSITY MATCH** (at Oxford): Oxford v Cambridge (5.0).

LACROSSE

BRINE NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Old Hulmeians v Mellor; Sale v Cheadle; Sheffield Steelers v Old Stopfordians; Stockport v Sheffield University; Timperley v Heaton Mersey. **SOUTHERN LEAGUE:** First division: Bath v Hampstead; Beckenham v Kenton; London University v Hillcroft.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: League Cup: Second round: Batley v Salford; Castleford v Swinton; Leeds v Wakefield; St Helens v Bradford. Second division: Carlisle v Hunslet (12.00); Trafford v Bramley (2.30); Whitehaven v Ryedale-York (2.30); Workington v Keighley (2.30). **OPENCAST BRITISH AMATEUR LEAGUE** (2.30): First division: Leigh Miners v Pilkingtons; Saddleworth v Egremont; West Hull v Woolston. Second division: Barrow Island v Beverley; Knottingley v Shaw Cross; Lock Lane v Askam; Millord v Greetland; Redhill v British Aerospace. League Cup: Second round: Wigan St Patrick's v Mayfield. Quarter-finals: Dewsbury Celtic v Dudley Hill; Leigh East v Millom.

TABLE TENNIS

SCOTTISH NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Ashvale Fish v Stiga Greenock; Redwood v Capital Sports; Korrugal Falkirk v Crosshouse Electrics; Murrayfield v Irvine. Second division: Greenock v Forth Valley; General Accident v Roseburn; Elgin v Dumbarton.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK ENGLISH LEAGUE: Men: First division: Aquila v Reebok Liverpool City (7.30); Hilton Leeds v MGI Wessex (6.30); Polonia v Staffordshire Moorlands (6.30); Speedwell Rucanor v Team Mizuno Malory (7.0). Women: First division: GP Scorpions v Sovereign Leasing Sale (4.45); Hilton Leeds v Mizuno Britannia (2.30).

RUGBY UNION

Five Nations' Championship

France v Wales (Parc des Princes, 2.0)
Ireland v England (Lansdowne Road, 2.45)

B International

Scotland B v France B (Hughenden, Glasgow)

Courage Clubs Championship
Second division

Plymouth A v Blackheath

Third division

Vale of Lune v W Hartlepool

Fourth division north

Stourbridge v Otley
Winnington Park v Kendal (2.30)

McEwan's Scottish League
Second division

Ayr v Dunfermline
Kilmarnock v Langholm
Musselburgh v Hillhead-J
W of Scotland v Corstorphine

THIRD DIVISION: Aberdeen GSFP v Gordonians; Biggar v Howe of Fife; Dalziel HSFP v Grangemouth; Trinity Academicals v Peebles. Fourth division: Cartha Queen's Park v Cambuslang; East Kilbride v Greenock Wanderers; Hutchesons'-Aloysians v Penicuik; Linlithgow v Dumfries; Morgan Academy FP v Lismore. Fifth division: Alloa v Hillfoots; Broughton FP v Dunbar; Glenrothes v North Berwick; Madras College FP v Aberdeenshire; Moray v Stewartry. Sixth division: Aberdeen University v Earlston; Carnoustie HSFP v Marr; Harris Academy FP v St Andrews University; Lasswade v Walkerburn; Lenzie v Clydebank; Montrose v Cumbernauld. Seventh division: Cumnock v Rosyth and District; Forrester FP v Ross High; Garioch v Strathmore; RAF Kinloss v Duns; Whitecraigs v Panmure.

Club Matches

Ayr v Stirling Co
Bedford v Met Police (12.0)
Coventry v Wasps
Gala v Wakefield
Glasgow H-K v Stewart's Mel FP
Harlequins v Newc Gosforth (12.0)
Heriot's FP v Jed-Forest
Liverpool St H v Sale
Lydney v Sth Wales Police (12.0)
Melrose v Alnwick
Morley v Preston G
Moseley v L Irish (12.30)
Nottingham v Aberavon
Orrell v Headingley
Richmond v Leicester
Saracens v L Welsh (12.30)
Waterloo v Northern
Watsonians v Edinburgh Wand

MIDLANDS: Courage Clubs Championship: North Midlands: First division: Evesham v Luctonians; Ludlow v Vesseyans. Club Matches: Alcester v Birchfield; Anstey v Ashfield Swans; Aston Old Edwardians v Nuneaton OE; Banbury v Long Buckby; Barton and District v North Kesteven; Bedford Athletic v Bedford Wanderers; Bedworth v Newport; Belgrave v Melton Mowbray; Belper v Boots Athletic; Bicester v Wellingborough; Birmingham-Solihull v Shrewsbury; Bishop's Stortford v Peterborough; Boston v Southwell; Bromsgrove v Dixonians; Bugbrooke v Aylestonians; Burntwood v Pinley; Burton-on-Trent v Tamworth; Buxton v Ilkeston; Cannock v Old Griffinians; Castleford v Mellish; Cheltenham Saracens v Harbury; Chesterfield v Stoneygate; Cinderford v Wolverhampton; Corby v Northampton Heathens; Coventrians v Birmingham City Officials; Coventry Saracens v Old Ashbeians; Coventry Technical v Jaguar (Coventry); Derby v Long Eaton; Derby College v All Spartans; Dronfield v Ashbourne; Drybrook v Coventry Welsh; Dunlop v Atherstone; Earlsdon v Coventry Post Office; Gainsborough v Yarborough Bees; GEC Coventry v Old Bosworthians; Handsworth v Kidderminster Carolians; Harworth Colliery v Whitwell; Huntingdon v Ely; Kenilworth v Camp Hill; Keresley v West Bridgford; Kettering v Aylesbury; Keyworth v West Leicester; Kibworth v Lutterworth; Ledbury v Stow-on-the-Wold; Leesbrook Asterdale v Braunstone Town; Lichfield v Berry Hill; Loughborough v Northampton Trinity; Manchester v Stoke-on-Trent; Mansfield v Hinckley; Matlock v Bakewell Mannerians; Market Bosworth v Aylestone St James; Milton Keynes v Dunstablians; Northampton BBOB v Old Wheatleyans; Newark v Pontefract; Newmarket v St Ives; Northwich v Stafford; Northampton Wanderers v Towcestrians; Oakham v Bourne; Old Centrals v Old Warwickians; Old Coventrians v Nottinghamians; Old Laurentians v Old Newtonians; Ollerton-Bevercotes v Skegness; Olney v Northampton OS; Old Longtonians v Kings Norton; Old Moseleians v Old Saltleians; Old Northamptonians v Cantabrigians; Old Silhillians v Five Ways OE; Oundle v Wellingborough OG; Rolls Royce v Uttoxeter; Rugeley v Wednesbury; Rugby St Andrews v Southam ; Rushden and Higham v Manor Park; Scraptoft Mentors v Rugby Welsh; Scunthorpe v Sleaford; Sheffield Tigers v Nottingham Casuals; Sheffield Oaks v East Retford; Shipston-on-Stour v Birmingham Civil Service; South Leicester v Daventry; Spalding v Grimsby; Stewarts and Lloyds v Oadby Wyggestonians; St Neots v Biggleswade; Stratford-upon-Avon v Redditch; Sudbury v Stockwood Park; Sutton Coldfield v Newbold-on-Avon; Syston v Barker's Butts; Tenbury v Bournville; Trinity Guild v Old Yardleians; Warwick v Burbage; Welshpool v Market Drayton; Westleigh v Leamington; Westwood v Old Wellingburians; Willenhall v Bridgnorth; Witton v Rubery Owen; Woodrush v Stoke Old Boys; Worksop v Coalville.

Tyldesley v Southport; Wakefield v Leek; Wakefield Wasps v Barnsley; Wallasey v Old Instonians; Warrington v De la Salle (Salford); West Leeds v York RI; West Park (St Helens) v Macclesfield; Wigton v

NORTH: Club Matches: Ashington v Bishop Auckland; Bowdon v Hoylake; Bradford and Bingley Barbarians v Old Rishworthians; Bramley v West Park Bramhope; Bury v Glossop; Buxton v Ilkeston; Caldy v Ormskirk; Castleford v Pocklington; Chester v Denbigh; Cleckheaton v Leodiensians; Crewe and Nantwich v Rhyl; Darlington v North Durham; Darlington RA v Middlesbrough Wasps; De la Salle (Sheffield) v Stocksbridge; Driffield XV v BP Chemicals; Dukinfield v Broughton; Fleetwood v Eccles; Gainsborough v Yarborough Bees; Halifax v Durham City; Halifax Vandals v Wibsey; Halton v Newton-le-Willows; Harworth v Whitwell; Heath v Leeds CSSA; Heaton Moor v Congleton; Hemsworth v Yarnbury; Hornsea v Thornensians XV; Huddersfield YMCA v Halifax Dukes; Hullensians v Hull and ER; Ilkley v Goole; Knottingley v Dinnington; Leeds YMCA v Yorkshire Main; Leigh v Ashton on Mersey; Lymm v Aspatria; Manchester v Stoke; Marist v Roundhay Trojans; Market Rasen v Wath; Medicals v Whitby; Metrovick v Burnage; Moortown v Burley; Morpeth v Wharfedale; Mosborough v Phoenix Park; New Brighton v Kendal; Northallerton v Guisborough; Old Aldwinians v Liverpool Collegiate; Old Anselmians v Old Parkonians; Old Crossleyans v Devonport; Oldham v Littleborough; Old Modernians v Wheatley Hills; Old Salians v Rossendale; Ossett v Adwick; Port Sunlight v Old Rockferrians; Redcar v Ripon; Rotherham v Stockton; Rowntrees v Leeds Corinthians; Ryton v North Ribblesdale; Sandbach v Old Brodleians; Scarborough v Berwick; Selby v Sandal; Sheffield v Hull Ionians; Sheffield Medics v Presidents' XV; Sheffield Tigers v Nottingham Casuals; Shell Stanlow v Ruskin Park; Skipton v Rodillians; Sleaford v Scunthorpe; Spalding v Grimsby; Thornensians v Horden; Novocastrians; Wilmslow v Sedgley Park; Wirral v Widnes; Withernsea v Pocklington XV; Worksop v Coalville; York v Doncaster. Courage Clubs Championship: Durham and Northumberland: Third Division: Hartlepool BBOB v Wensleydale. Yorkshire Cup: First round: Beverley v Harrogate; Otliensians v Keighley; Roundhegians v Old Hymerians.

WEST: Courage Clubs Championship: South West: First division: Reading v High Wycombe. Club Matches: Avon v Kingswood; Aretians v St Bernadette Old Boys; Avonvale v Stothert and Pitt; Avonmouth v Frome; Barnstaple v Falmouth; Bishopston v Barton Hill; Bodmin v Hayle; Bridgwater and Albion v Worcester; Bristol Saracens v Keynsham; Bristol Telephones v Southmead; BAC v Frampton Cotterell; Broad Plain v Chipping Sodbury; Bude v Bideford Quins; Camborne v Torquay Athletic; Clevedon v Yatton; Clifton Nomads v South West Gas; Castle Cary v Old Ashtonians; Chard v Burnham on Sea; Hornets v Old Bristolians; Imperial v Gordano; Liskeard-Looe v Old Technicians; North Bristol v Bristol Harlequins; Old Colstonians v Cleve; Old Culverhaysians v Gloucester Spartans; Oldfield v Combe Down; Old Sulians v Midsomer Norton; Penryn v Newquay Hornets; Penzance-Newlyn v Launceston; Redruth v Taunton; Redruth Albany v St Just; Redruth GSOB v St Day; St Austell v St Agnes; St Brendan's Old Boys v Clifton Wanderers; St Ives v Matson; St Just v Illogan Park; St Mary's Old Boys v Old Elizabethans; Saltash v Kingsbridge; Thornbury v Dings Crusaders; Tor v Cheddar; Veor v Lankelly-Fowey; Weston United v Minehead; Whitehall v Old Redcliffians; Winscombe v Taunton United.

SCOTLAND: Club Matches: Clarkston v Kirkcaldy; Hawick v Preston Lodge FP; Leith Academicals v Haddington; Selkirk v Royal High; Stirling County v Dundee HSFP.

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S HOME INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT (Durham University Sports Centre): Wales v Scotland (12.30); England v Ireland (2.30).

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Havant v Old Loughtonians (Havant College, 2.15); Hounslow v East Grinstead (Feltham School, 2.0); Indian Gymkhana v Bromley (Feltham School, 2.0); Isca v Stourport (Ottery St Mary, 2.30); Slough v Cannock (Wexham School, 2.0); Southgate v St Albans (Broomfield School, 2.0); Wakefield v Welton (Featherstone SC, 2.0). Second division: Brean v Richmond (Bristol University, 12.15); Cambridge City v Gore Court (Coldhams Common, 2.15); Doncaster v Bournville (Grove SC, Newark, 11.30); Guildford v Canterbury (Seaford College, Petworth, 2.0); Harborne v Broxbourne (Hadley Stadium, Birmingham, 12.45); Lyons v Taunton Vale (Dairy Meadow, Southall, 2.30); Reading v Warrington (Sonning Lane, 11.30); Trojans v Firebrands (Trojans SC, Eastleigh, 1.0).

ERNST AND YOUNG LEAGUE: Premier division: Barford Tigers v Belper; John Player v Bloxwich; Kidderminster v Leicester Westleigh; Olton and West Warwickshire v Beeston.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUES: Premier division: Bluehearts v Westcliff; Bury St Edmunds v Crostyx; Cambs Nomads v Pelicans; Chelmsford v Bishop's Stortford; Colchester v Peterborough; Harleston Magpies v Ford; Ipswich v Wisbech; Norwich City v Bedford.

AW YARNS NORTH PREMIER LEAGUE: Bowdon v Norton; Formby v Disley; Liverpool Sefton v Durham University; Ramgarhia v Preston; Sheffield v Hightown Northern; Stockton v Alderley Edge; Timperley v Ben Rhydding; Tynemouth v Brooklands.

MTM NORTH EAST LEAGUE: Billingham v Redcar; Darlington v St George's; Marton Furness v Whitehaven; Morpeth v Swalwell; Sunderland v Carlisle; Tynedale v South Shields.

HALPERN AND WOOLF NORTH WEST LEAGUE: Blackburn v Sale; Chester v Prescot; Knutsford v Macclesfield; Manchester v Springfields; Manchester

YMCA v Southport; Northop Hall v Deeside Ramblers; Oxton v Wigan; West Derby v Cheetham Hill.

TIPP-EX YORKSHIRE LEAGUE: Adel v Rotherham; Brigg v Halifax; Chapeltown v Grimsby; Harrogate v Driffield; Huddersfield v Appleby Frodingham; Lincoln v Bardsey; Rosse v Farsley; York v Bradford; York CS Trojans v Sheffield Bankers.

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: English National under-18 championships (Coventry).
FENCING: Martini Challenge Cup (Seymour Leisure Centre, London).
RACKETS: World singles championship, first leg (Queen's Club, London).
SNOOKER: Pearl Assurance British open (Derby).

TOMORROW

Barclays League
First division

Liverpool v Arsenal (all ticket)

Third division

Bradford v Huddersfld (12.0)
Leyton Orient v Brentford (12.0)

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division (3.30): Athlone v Bohemians; Cork City v Limerick (3.0); Dundalk v Waterford; Galway v Derry; Shamrock v St Patrick's Athletic.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Saltash v Radstock.

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Bradford v Oldham; Hull v Featherstone (6.30); Leeds v Hull KR; Rochdale v Castleford; Warrington v St Helens; Widnes v Sheffield; Wigan v Wakefield. Second division: Batley v Fulham (3.15); Chorley v Bramley; Doncaster v Whitehaven (3.30); Huddersfield v Barrow (3.30); Keighley v Salford (1.0); Runcorn v Dewsbury; Ryedale-York v Carlisle (3.15); Swinton v Leigh; Trafford Borough v Halifax; Workington v Nottingham.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Cleveland v Solihull (5.15); Fife v Ayr (7.15); Nottingham v Cardiff (7.0); Peterborough v Murrayfield (6.30); Whitley v Durham (6.30). First division: Basingstoke v Telford (6.0); Bracknell v Medway (5.15); Glasgow v Lee Valley (4.45); Humberside v Romford (5.15); Trafford v Swindon (5.30).
ENGLISH LEAGUE: Blackburn v Oxford (6.30); Chelmsford v Sheffield (6.30); Haringey v Milton Keynes (6.0).

LACROSSE

REGIONAL TROPHY: South of England v Cheshire (Buckhurst Hill); Yorkshire v Lancashire (Harrogate).

BASKETBALL

COCA-COLA NATIONAL CUP (London Arena): Men: Final (4.0). Women: Final: Nottingham v Sheffield (12.0).
NATIONAL TROPHY (London Arena): Men: Final: Bury v Broxbourne (2.0).
CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Men: Second division: Birmingham v Coventry (6.0); Middlesbrough v Cheshire (4.0). Third division: Birmingham v Calderdale (2.30); Cardiff v Chiltern (4.0); Kirklees v Barnsley (4.45). Women: Second division: Wirral v Halesden (3.0).

TENNIS

VAUXHALL INDOOR LEAGUE: Area 1A: Puma Sunderland v Tennis World Middlesbrough; Upper Armley Leeds v Barnard Castle School. Area 1B: Ilkley v Hallamshire Sheffield; Pilkington Glass Birchwood v Wrexham. Area 2A: Melton Mowbray v Edgbaston Priory; Sutton Hard Courts v Nottingham Breakpoint. Area 2B: Connaught Club London v Harpenden Stags; Puma Welwyn v Clearview Brentwood. Area 3A: Ealing v Riverside Racqueteers Chiswick; Islington v David Lloyd Slazenger Heston; Middlesex Polytechnic v LCTA London. Area 3B: Ball Park Eastbourne v Record Centre Gravesend; Chris Lane Woking v Crawley Pavilion and Avenue; Hove v Record Centre Maidstone. Area 4A: Queen's Club, London v BBC; Roehampton v David Lloyd Finchley. Area 4B: Manydown Basingstoke v Weston's Alverstoke Aces; Pack-A-Punchers Kingsley v West Hants Bournemouth; Team Excel Bath v Europa Southampton.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK ENGLISH LEAGUE: Men: League Cup: Quarter-final: Speedwell Rucanor v Hilton Leeds. First division: Aquila v Staffordshire Moorlands (3.30); Polonia v Reebok Liverpool City (1.0); Radio Trent Rockets v MGI Wessex (12.30). Women: First division: Brixton Knights v Mizuno Britannia (2.30); Hilton Leeds v Dynamo London (2.0); Southgate v Ashcombe Sabre Dorking (11.30).

HOCKEY

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Neston v Teddington (Neston Recreation Centre, 2.0). Second division: Taunton Vale v Warrington (Taunton School, 12.0).

NATIONWIDE ANGLIA CUP: Fourth round: Stourport v Cambridge City (King Charles School, Kidderminster, 2.0); St Albans v Hounslow (Clarence Park, 2.15); Isca v Welton (Ottery St Mary, 11.0); Bromley v Bournville (Edenbridge Leisure Centre, 12.30); Old Loughtonians v East Grinstead (Chigwell, 2.30); Havant v Guildford (Havant College, 2.15); Lyons v Brean (Dairy Meadow, Southall, 2.30).

Fifth round: Formby v Cannock (Blaguegate SC, Skelmersdale, 1.0); Slough v Richmond (Wexham School, 2.0); Bournemouth v Firebrands (Bournemouth SC, Chapelgate, 1.30).

WOMEN'S HOME INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT (Durham University Sports Centre): Ireland v Wales (11.30); England v Scotland (1.30).

RUGBY UNION

CLUB MATCH: Newbridge v Newport.

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Vauxhall Indoor international: GB v US (Kelvin Hall, Glasgow).

BADMINTON: English National under-18 championships (Coventry).

BOWLS: Haven-Commercial Union Inter-Club Championship: Final (Lawson Park, Bedford, 10.0).

FENCING: Martini Challenge Cup (Seymour Leisure Centre, London).

RACKETS: World singles championship, first leg (Queen's Club, London).

SNOOKER: Pearl Assurance British open (Derby).

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MARTELL COGNAC

THE TIMES today presents a special opportunity for two readers, each with a companion, to join the excitement at one of the great events of the sporting calendar, the Seagram Grand National.

We have linked with Martell Cognac, one of Seagram's premier brands, to provide a memorable excursion to Aintree on Saturday, April 6. Our winners and their friends will have this timetable to help them enjoy every moment of the build-up to the race, the race itself and the rest of the Aintree programme:

Return British Rail travel from their home station to London; dinner and accommodation at the St Ermin's Hotel in London on Friday, April 5; travel to Liverpool from Euston on Saturday morning on the luxury Seagram Pullman, with champagne breakfast *en route*; transfer to Aintree for lunch at the private Seagram chalet and a spectacular view of the race from the Glenlivet Stand; dinner in the Seagram Pullman on the return journey to London; and overnight accommodation at the St Ermin's before the journey home.

Martell, founded in 1715, is the oldest of the leading cognac producers and is the No. 1 selling cognac in Britain. It is sponsoring two races at Aintree: the Martell Cup Chase on April 4 and the Martell Cup Hurdle on April 5.

To enter the competition, study the questions below, complete the entry form, and send it to Martell Cognac competition, Sports Department, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, to arrive by Monday, March 11, 1991. The winners will be the senders of the first two correct entries opened from all those received.

THE QUESTIONS

1. When was the Grand Liverpool Steeplechase first run at Aintree?
2. Who rode Red Rum in the first of his three Grand National wins?

3. Who was the first woman rider to complete the Grand National?
4. What was the name of the horse which Peter Scudamore's father rode to victory in the Grand National?
5. How many Grand National winners did Fulke Walwyn ride and train?

ENTRY FORM

Name ....

....

Address ....

....

....

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Telephone ....

ANSWERS

1 ....

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2 ....

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3 ....

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4 ....

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5 ....

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CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Employees (and their relatives) of Times Newspapers Ltd, Seagram and their agents are not eligible for entry. The Sport Editor's decision is final. No correspondence.

FENCING

Britons face high class opposition

THE Challenge Martini A grade men's épée competition in London today promises an exciting final at Seymour leisure centre (a Special Correspondent writes).

Among the 14-strong German contingent are Thomas Gerull, the world champion, and the Olympic champion, Arnd Schmitt.

The best British performance is likely from the national champion, John Llewellyn, of Reading, who is in sparkling form. For the future, eyes will be on Nigel Beadsworth, who at 19 years old did well to qualify against stiff domestic competition, and Sam McFarlane, aged 16, taking his place as Britain's top cadet.

GOLF

Woosnam keeps his hopes high in spite of course

From MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, ST RAPHAEL

IAN Woosnam yesterday survived the eccentricities of the Esterel-Latitudes course here to keep Michael McLean, the halfway leader, in his sights and his hopes high of a successful defence of the Fujitsu Mediterranean Open.

McLean took 70 for a score of 136, six under par, on a course where the margin of error is minimal given that the narrow fairways meander towards undulating greens with chicane-like entries.

The difficulties imposed by the course, and by driving rain, naturally took its toll. Gordon Brand Jr, David Feherty, Ken Brown, Des Smyth and Brian Barnes were among the halfway victims; Russell Claydon and Paul Way withdrew because of injury, although shell-shock might be a more appropriate description.

Woosnam, however, mostly kept a smile on his face. These are early days, and no time to submit to what the golfers aptly refer to as brain damage, and he has on his mind to achieve much this season. He might not be the No. 1 golfer in the world, for Nick Faldo is unquestionably that, but he presently rivals Greg Norman as the most exciting, especially with Severiano Ballesteros struggling.

Coincidentally, Woosnam and Norman will get together the week before the Masters. "I'm going to stay with him in Florida," Woosnam said. Woosnam, obviously relishing the break which will follow three successive tournaments in the United States, said: "That and a little fishing should set me up nicely for Augusta."

Woosnam would, by winning the Masters, earn universal acclaim. That is not to ignore the importance of this week. Woosnam has matured, building the reservoir of patience which once was lacking, and an examination such as the one offered here remains an integral part of the learning process. His 71 was not vintage Woosnam. There was nothing spectacular about it. But McLean, looking over his shoulder, will fear no player more, although Eoghan O'Connell, Mark Davis, Giuseppe Cali, Derrick Cooper and Paul Hoad separate him from the Welshman.

McLean, however, is more than delighted to be in such a situation. It was not so long ago that he feared even the thought of teeing-up the ball. He went back to the qualifying school in 1988 and 1989, but he was able to stay at home this winter following his success in the Portuguese Open. "I sat there gloating," he said. He was entitled to gloat on the two-iron which he hit at the eighth which left the ball six feet from the hole for a two.

Steve Richardson thrust himself into the limelight with his win in the Girona Open last weekend. O'Connell might well be the next to do so. The young Irishman has an old head on his shoulders as he revealed in a round of 69. His putter served him well, too, as he holed three times from ten feet.

LEADING SECOND ROUND SCORES (GB and Ire unless stated): 136: M McLean, 66, 70. 138: E O'Connell, 69, 69. 140: G Cali (It), 70, 70; D Cooper, 70, 70; P Hoad, 66, 74; M Davis, 69, 71. 141: J Townsend (US), 72, 69; G Turner, 71, 70; I Woosnam, 70, 71. 142: S Richardson, 71, 71; C Moody, 71, 71; P Broadhurst, 68, 74; C Mason, 71, 71; M Miller, 69, 73; M Clayton (Aus), 66, 76; V Singh (Fiji), 70, 72.

143: M Martin (Sp), 73, 70. 144: B Marchbank, 72, 72; J-M Cañizares (Sp), 74, 70; K Waters, 73, 71; M James, 70, 74; P Teravainen (US), 69, 75; M Persson (Swe), 69, 75; M Pinero (Sp), 68, 76. 145: S Bottomley, 69, 76; P Walton, 69, 76; A Forsbrand (Swe), 76, 69; J Van de Velde (Fr), 74, 71; P Smith, 68, 77; J M Olazábal (Sp), 70, 75.

146: L Lassalle (Fr), 71, 75; M A Jimenez (Sp), 72, 74; E Dussart (Fr), 71, 75; M Lanner (Swe), 68, 78; B Lane, 73, 73; J Parnevik (Swe), 69, 77; P Mitchell, 70, 76; R Rafferty, 75, 71. 147: D Durnian, 66, 81; M Poxon, 73, 74; D Williams, 74, 73; A Murray, 77, 70; J Spence, 74, 73; B Ogle (Aus), 74, 73; O Sellberg (Swe), 71, 76; P Carrigill, 71, 76; J Quiros (Sp), 77, 70; S Bowman (US), 71, 76; E Darcy, 70, 77; T Charnley, 72, 75.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Widnes will clip Eagles' wings

By KEITH MACKLIN

THERE is widespread sympathy for the plight of Sheffield Eagles as they struggle to survive in the first division, but none will be extended by Widnes at Naughton Park tomorrow.

Widnes swept into a clear lead at the head of the table with their comprehensive and stylish beating of Hull in midweek, and a repetition of that form will surely sweep aside the challenge of an Eagles team who did well to win at Bradford but can hardly expect to compete with the premiership holders at their best. Widnes will be without their injured stand-off half, Tony Myler, who is showing his true international form at the moment. However, that is unlikely to stem the flow of an attack inspired by the international full back, Alan Tait.

Wigan have a backlog of several games to make up if they are to make a surge from fourth place to retain their championship. Like Widnes, they should not have too many problems tomorrow in securing a home victory, against Wakefield Trinity, a side in the midst of a distressing slump which has taken them into the relegation zone.

Leeds will be without John Gallagher, the New Zealand rugby union full back, for the home game with Hull Kingston Rovers. Gallagher, who has not shown his best ability since being shaken up by a spear tackle at St Helens, has knee trouble.

Leeds have suffered the indignity of being rendered scoreless in two consecutive games for the first time since the 1948-9 season — an awful comment on their present plight — and a further home defeat would put more pressure on their beleaguered coach, David Ward, who promised after the cup defeat at Bradford that he would not throw in the towel.

Castleford will expect to maintain their outside challenge for the title with a win at Rochdale Hornets, where Wigan scored 72 points in the cup last weekend. However, the Rochdale defence appeared to have stiffened in the narrow midweek defeat by Warrington, and Castleford must not be too complacent.

Hull may catch a tartar at home to Featherstone Rovers as they attempt to bounce back from the defeat at Widnes.

● John Duffy, of Chorley, has been suspended for five matches by the rugby league disciplinary committee after being sent off for a high tackle in the match against Rochdale. John Mayo, his club colleague, was suspended for four games following his dismissal in the home game with Fulham — also for a high tackle.

CYCLING

Cammish eyes the 50 record

By PETER BRYAN

IAN Cammish, Britain's outstanding all-time amateur rider against the clock, started his second year as a professional at a Surrey training camp yesterday with half an eye on his fitness and the other on a national record attempt.

The Raleigh professional set two British records last year, the 50 miles in June and the 100 miles in November, only to lose the former that month to the amateur rider, Pete Longbottom, who set new figures of 1hr 30min 14sec.

Cammish has scheduled six attempts during the next week to regain the 50 miles record and also beat Dave Lloyd's 25 miles time of 42min 37sec, set in 1982. He has planned a choice of courses ranging from Guildford to Scotch Corner, in Yorkshire, to take advantage of favourable weather conditions in which the force of the wind will be all important.

Cammish has turned the conventional series of record attempts — best done between May and September — upside down. Given the right conditions, his winter training programme and early time trial victories should get him through. He will then tackle all the main place-to-place records including London to Brighton and back, London to Portsmouth and back, and a Dick Turpin-style London to York attempt.

Mason against Manchester has ITV out for the count

SPORT ON TELEVISION

THE WEEK IN VIEW

By KEN LAWRENCE

SPORT and sporting finances tend to throw up some delightful ironies — delightful, that is, to those who enjoy a smile at others' misfortune.

The BBC made huge investments down the years in Frank Bruno, yet when he fought Witherspoon and Bugner, ITV had the contests first. Now, the glove is on the other fist: ITV has invested in all the Lennox Lewis fights, but when he takes on Gary Mason for the British and European heavyweight titles on Wednesday, it is the BBC which will be transmitting the contest, live in *Sportsnight*.

It is not causing ITV too much heartache. Two hours before Mason steps into the Wembley ring, Manchester United run out at Old Trafford for the first leg of their European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final against Montpelier — and that will be screened live by them.

"In a perfect world we would like to have the boxing as well, but if we could have only one event, then the football is fine by us," Gary Newbon, of Central, said. He is prepared to wager with anyone at the BBC that their Old Trafford viewing figures will be considerably higher than that for the boxing.

"Our football figures have been very good indeed," Newbon said. "On New Year's Day, Tottenham and Manchester United pulled 9.8 million viewers." He will be surprised if that figure is not broken on Wednesday and possibly even tomorrow, when ITV has the Liverpool-Arsenal game in *The Match*.

"It is clearly the most vital League game of the season; it could well settle the championship," he said.

Most channels clearly see football and boxing as the top attractions, and it is little wonder that our top football clubs are so desperate to be competing in Europe again. While the BBC has paid around £175,000 for the boxing rights, Manchester United will be collecting something like double that for allowing cameras into their ground on Wednesday.

While cycling might not raise temperatures here like football does, there is big money at stake all the same. The Scot, Robert Millar, collects around £250,000 as a support rider to Greg LeMond in the Z team. The American, three times winner of the Tour de France, is in the second year of a three-year contract and reckons he is underpaid for his estimated £1.5 million a year.

The golf-loving LeMond, who is reputed to be better than ever this season, has been criticised by Eddie Merckx as "not a real champion" because he has never won a World Cup race. He is out to put that record straight this summer.

Today, he and the Italian World Cup champion, Gianni Bugno, are riding in Italy, and they will surely be seeking out a television set somewhere to pick up Eurosport's coverage of the 201-kilometre Het Volk Classic which marks the opening of the classic season.

Last year, Eurosport transmitted 160 hours of cycling and, concentrating on the 13 World Cup races and the Tour de France, expects "to do at least as much this year".

THE WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY: Bill Beaumont was the last man to captain England to rugby union's triple crown, but he will be missing from his commentary position when Will Carling's team play for it against Ireland (*Grandstand*, BBC1 from 12.15pm). Nigel Starmer-Smith commentates with Hugo MacNeill, the former Ireland full back, in support. On ITV, the British Open snooker final can be seen at 3.05pm and 10.30pm. The third day's play in the Doral Ryder Open golf comes live from Miami on Screensport (9.35pm), while Eurosport has the Mediterranean Open golf in *Saturday Live* (from 11.00am).

TOMORROW: Arsenal will test Liverpool without Dalglish in *The Match* (ITV, 2.55pm) as the leading sides in the first division meet. Great Britain's indoor athletics international against the United States at Glasgow follows at 5.35pm. The final day's play from Nice (Eurosport, 11.30) and Miami (Screensport, live from 10.00pm) should keep golf supporters awake.

MONDAY: Alan Minter's two great bouts, against Antuofermo and Hagler, are on Eurosport (8.00pm).

TUESDAY: Live boxing from the York Hall (Screensport, 8.00pm) and on ITV (11.50pm). Thames has the British featherweight championship between Sean Murphy and Gary DeRoux. A preview to the Formula One motor racing season can be seen on Eurosport (7.00pm).

WEDNESDAY: Manchester United's European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final tie against Montpellier (ITV, 8.00pm) will end in time to switch to BBC 1 for *Sportsnight* (10.00pm), which has British and European heavyweight championship boxing between Gary Mason and Lennox Lewis at Wembley. Eurosport will have European football action (10.00pm), while Screensport (8.00pm) has live snooker between Jimmy White and Stephen Hendry.

THURSDAY: Speed skating from Richmond ice rink, with Will O'Reilly and Stuart Horsepool vying for the British title (Channel 4, 2.30pm).

FRIDAY: Four hours of live athletics (Eurosport, 4.00pm) as the world indoor championships get under way in Seville, also featured in *Sport on Friday* (BBC2, 2.20pm).

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Young hopefuls flying high in the Ardington Novices' Chase at Newbury yesterday

Morley Street fails to offer any inspiration

By RICHARD EVANS

MORLEY Street won a muddling Berkshire Hurdle at Newbury yesterday, but failed to inspire punters or bookmakers looking for much-needed pointers to the Smurfit Champion Hurdle in ten days' time.

With Nomadic Way having been soundly beaten at Haydock only minutes earlier, the stage had been cleared for Toby Balding's hurdler to make his mark and justify the substantial ante-post support of recent days.

But a series of mishaps, including an early faller and a loose horse which bedevilled the remaining runners for the rest of the race, reduced the Champion Hurdle trial to a rather meaningless contest.

With only six runners, the race was never going to be run at a fast pace to bring out the best in Morley Street. Settled by Jimmy Frost in fifth place, he was fortunate not be involved in the tangle at the fifth hurdle when Rouyan fell and brought down Paul Holley on Mountain Kingdom.

Morley Street and Danny Harrold took over from the front-running Vagador coming into the straight and they jumped the second last virtually together. Morley Street then gradually asserted his authority, although he could not burst away from his rival because the riderless Mountain Kingdom blocked his path approaching the final flight.

Danny Harrold, wearing blinkers for the first time, attempted to rally on the run-in but held his head suspiciously high, leaving Morley Street to win by two lengths.

Ladbrokes and Coral cut Morley Street to 3-1 for the Cheltenham race, while Nomadic Way was pushed out to 10-1.

The Champion Hurdle remains one of the most open for years but Balding was satisfied with the performance of Morley Street, who had not raced since Boxing Day and was returning to hurdles after failing to enjoy chasing.

"It was a rotten race and the loose horse didn't help at all. But Morley Street will have needed that and he will improve for it. He jumped left-handed at the second last, otherwise he jumped very well.

"As expected, he tied up in the last half furlong, but he was entitled to. The loose horse cost him five or six lengths during the race. That is half the mission accomplished," the Fyfield trainer said.

Jenny Pitman, trainer of Danny Harrold, said: "There is no problem with the horse. He wore blinkers because he needs to concentrate on what he is doing. Looking at the horses, Toby Balding's horse has got improvement left in him and so has ours. It all depends who has got the most improvement."

Teaplanter must have an outstanding chance in the Christies Foxhunters' Chase at the festival after keeping his unbeaten record this season with an authoritative win in the Soapey Sponge Hunters' Chase. After leading six out, Teaplanter drew away from Wellington Brown approaching the last, put in a fine leap and went on to win by ten lengths.

Richard Russell, the eight-year-old's jockey, said Teaplanter had never run better and would improve for the race

Nicky Henderson's growing collection of winning novice chasers must be the envy of every National Hunt trainer up and down the country and Whatever You Like was the latest recruit to join the ranks yesterday.

His jumping in the opening Ardington Novices' Chase was always superior to that of High Knowl and, after putting in a flying leap at the final fence, held the challenge of Popeswood by one-and-a-half lengths.

Champion left with dilemma

THE victory of Sondrio, ridden by Graham McCourt in the Boodle and Dunthorpe Diamond Hurdle at Haydock yesterday, has presented Peter Scudamore with a Champion Hurdle dilemma.

The champion jockey partnered Nomadic Way, well beaten into third place, but may now choose to desert that horse in favour of the Martin Pipe runner, who is as low as 7-1 with Coral.

Pipe said: "That was a very good performance. It is now up to Peter to make up his mind which one he wants to ride."

A third alternative is Black Humour, the horse on which Scudamore broke his left leg earlier this season. Charlie Brooks's charge was the subject of a considerable gamble with Ladbrokes yesterday, and is now 16-1 from 40-1.

Sondrio led throughout and after Nomadic Way and Riverhead threatened to mount a challenge approaching the second last he showed a formidable turn of pace.

Nomadic Way's trainer Barry Hills was not disheartened by the result. "I'm disappointed that he did not win, but he will have an 8lb pull at Cheltenham. He needed the run quite badly as he did not have a hard race in Ireland. He jumped well today and will come on a lot for it."

Redundant Pal can book place

From OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT, DUBLIN

NO FEWER than nine Irish-trained Cheltenham festival aspirants endeavour to guarantee their places with good performances at Naas today.

Laura's Beau, whose objective is the Sun Alliance Chase over three miles, takes on the Arkle Chase hopeful Redundant Pal in the two-mile £Ir10,000 Nas Na Ri Chase. Redundant Pal was a flop last time out behind Final Tub at Fairyhouse, but may still prove the better of the pair as he will be back to racing left-handed.

Kiichi, who looks to have got in to the Grand Annual Chase with a reasonable weight of 11st 1lb, will be carrying 17lb more in the Newlands Handicap Chase and may not give so much weight away to Torrent Bay.

The vastly-improved handicap hurdler Killiney Graduate may make it four in a row in the Robertstown Handicap Hurdle. Arabian Nights is said to have improved since an unplaced jumping debut, and can win the Saggart Maiden Hurdle.

The second £10,000 prize on the sponsored programme is the Johnstown Hurdle when the top weight Joyful Noise switches from chasing, and he is best treated by the conditions.

Con Marnane's Aintree Grand National candidate, Call Collect, has his second start of the season in the Tom Dreaper Handicap Chase at Fairyhouse tomorrow . He is still short of peak fitness but Marnane is hopeful that he will run well enough to justify going for the Foxhunters' Chase at Cheltenham en route to Aintree.

Altcar triumph

EVENING Mail improved throughout the three days of the Waterloo Cup to beat the Irish favourite Cant Clean Ash by four lengths in the 160th running of the coursing classic at Altcar yesterday (Graham Rock writes).

It was the fourth Waterloo Cup winner for trainer Charlie Howard and his last runner before handing over the reins to his daughter, Anne.

Racing next week

MONDAY: Windsor, Southwell, Leicester.

TUESDAY: Warwick, Sedgefield, Lingfield Park.

WEDNESDAY: Folkestone, Catterick Bridge, Bangor, Southwell.

THURSDAY: Wincanton, Stratford, Lingfield Park.

FRIDAY: Sandown Park, Carlisle, Market Rasen, Southwell.

SATURDAY: Sandown Park, Ayr, Chepstow, Doncaster, Lingfield Park.

Flat meetings in bold

Chilhampton can qualify

By BRIAN BEEL

THE TIMES Point-to-point Championship

ON LAST season's form, Chilhampton looks to have an outstanding chance in *The Times* Championship qualifier at the **Hursley Hambledon** point-to-point today .

In six outings over the last two seasons, Tony Green's gelding has only won one race, a maiden at Larkhill, but he has run consistently well in useful company and has been in the frame on every occasion.

His final race last year, when he was fourth of 15 runners in a hunter chase at Stratford, makes Chilhampton look to be a cut above the others of which Bishop's Blaize, Farmer's Gamble, and Spring Fun, in an entry of 32, look to be the main contenders.

The **East Devon** will be racing on its new course at Clyst St Mary, where the RMC qualifier looks to be between Justthewayyouare, Millstreak, and Fiddler's Pike, who are preferred in that order.

The same sponsor has qualifiers at the **Cambridge University**, at which Sweet Diana will be out to make amends for last week's defeat, and at the **Duke of Beaufort's**, where Jimster is my selection.

He, however, has an alternative engagement in the open at the **Bicester with Whaddon Chase**, a meeting which has nine races scheduled to cope with the record entry of 330. Jimster would have a difficult task here, however, as Risk A Bet could make his return, and Gibraltar Girl and Scaliscro are also engaged.

Timber Tool, the Welsh champion pointer with clockwork consistency, cannot be seriously be opposed on his 1991 debut in the **Pembrokeshire** open, while Ballyneety might be the one to benefit if John Sam is an absentee in the corresponding event at the **South Cornwall**.

The **West Shropshire** have a divided open, in the first of which Turnmill could have the edge in a competitive field, while in the second, last year's *Times* Championship winner, Eastern Chant, will have to be on top form to get the better of Fibreguide Tech.

Nothing should stop Dun Gay Lass from winning the open at the **Berwickshire**, and enable her to enter the Cheltenham Foxhunters', only 12 days away.

Par Kelly pulled out of a hunter chase this week, but even if he took his chance in the open at the **South Durham**, I would prefer The Red One, a faller at the last when looking the winner at the **Cheshire Forest** last Saturday.

On his disappointing run at Lingfield on Monday, Scrandandfruit looks well held by The Wilk in the **South East Hunts Club** meeting at Parham.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Berwickshire: Friars Haugh, 1 mile west of Kelso, (first race 1.0); **Bicester With Whaddon Chase:** Mollington, 5m N of Banbury, (12.0); **Cambridge University:** Cottenham, (12.30); **Duke of Beaufort's:** Didmarton, 6m SW of Tetbury (1.0); **East Devon:** Clyst St Mary, Devon county showground, 1m East of M5 junction 30, (12.30); **Hursley Hambledon:** Badbury Rings, 5m SE of Blandford (12.30); **Pembrokeshire:** Pantyderi, 7m W of Newcastle Emlyn, (12.30); **South Cornwall:** Great Trethew, 3m SE of Liskeard, (1.0); **South Durham:** Great Stainton, 3m SW of Sedgefield, (12 pm); **South East Hunt Club:** Parham, 3m SE of Pulborough, (1.30); **West Shropshire:** Weston Park, 6m E of Telford, (12.30).

Results from yesterday's three meetings

Newbury

Going: good (ch); good to soft (hdles)

2.0 (2m 160yd ch) 1, **WHATEVER YOU LIKE** (R Dunwoody, 7-2); 2, *Popeswood* (M Richards, 8-1); 3, *High Knowl* (J Frost, 7-4 fav). *ALSO RAN:* 5 Bitter Buck (6th), 14 Dare Say (5th), First Warning (pu), Forced March (4th), 16 *Men Of Yorkshire* (f), 20 Hollywood Man (pu), 25 Xhai (f), 33 Flutter Money, 50 Briggs Builders, 66 Atlantic Cedar. 13 ran. 1½l, 7l, 2½l, 3½l, 8l. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £4.20; £1.90, £2.20, £1.80. DF: £13.10. CSF: £31.38.

2.30 (3m 120yd hdle) 1, **YOUNG BAVARD** (P Verling, 10-1); 2, Celtic Barle (M Lynch, 4-1); 3, Oinistar (R Dunwoody, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 3 fav *More Fool You* (4th), 8 Calabrese (5th), 10 Cythere (6th), 11 Sir Crusty, Timminion, 16 Buckskin's Best, 20 Rogers Princess, 50 Royal Duchy (pu). 11 ran. Hd, 8l, 10l, ½l, 12l. D Murray Smith at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £7.40; £2.50, £1.90, £1.90. DF: £32.60. CSF: £47.56. Tricast: £161.12.

3.0 (2m 160yd ch) 1, **WINGSPAN** (J Frost, 7-2); 2, Hogmanay (D Murphy, 85-40 fav); 3, Wink Gulliver (R Arnott, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Springholm (5th), 14 *Bendicks* (4th). 5 ran. 1½l, 25l, 15l, 3l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £4.70; £2.40, £1.10. DF: £6.80. CSF: £10.72.

3.30 (2m 4f 120yd hdle) 1, **MORLEY STREET** (J Frost, 8-11 fav); 2, Danny Harrold (M Pitman, 5-2); 3, Vagador (M Perrett, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Mountain Kingdom (bd), 16 Rouyan (f), 100 Hickelton Lad (4th). 6 ran. 2l, 20l, dist. G Balding at Fyfield. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £1.40. DF: £2.10. CSF: £2.86.

4.0 (3m ch) 1, **TEAPLANTER** (Mr R Russell, 6-5 fav; Mandarin's nap & Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Wellington Brown (Mr H Rowsell, 5-2); 3, Another Troop (Mr D Townsend, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 12 Curraheen Boy (pu), 14 Frenchmans Fancy (f), 20 Late Session (pu), 28 Ring Of Secrets (pu), 33 Members Merlin (pu), Tipperary Inn (5th), Water Wagtail (4th), 40 Its All Very Fine (ur), 50 New Song (ur), 100 Anything Better (ur), Drops O'Brandy (pu). 14 ran. NR: General Billy. 10l, 20l, ½l, 25l. R Russell at Towcester. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £2.10, £4.80. DF: £2.90. CSF: £4.22.

4.30 (2m 4f 120yd hdle) 1, **WAGON LOAD** (R Dunwoody, 10-1); 2, Its Nearly Time (N Mann, 9-1); 3, Plastic Spaceage (C Llewellyn, 14-1); 4, Rocktor (N Hawke, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5 jt-fav Charlton Yeoman, Among Friends (5th), 9 Bowl Of Oats (pu), 10 Shadow Run, 11 Muscleton, Strong Support, 16 Dramatic Event, Queen Of Sparta, 25 Silverino (pu), Duo Drom, 33 Draw Poker (pu), Grotius (6th), De Profundis, Witches Run (pu), Blustery Fellow (pu), 40 Miss Neptune (pu), 50 Farmer Bryan, 100 Win Electric (pu), In The Zona. 23 ran. NR: Daunou. 3½l, 10l, 3l, 5l, 2½l. R Akehurst at Whitcombe. Tote: £8.80; £2.60, £2.00, £4.70, £4.10. DF: £64.80. CSF: £97.68. Tricast: £1192.11.

Jackpot: £5,128.30. Placepot: £21.80.

Haydock Park

Going: soft

2.15 (2m hdle) 1, **ONEUPMANSHIP** (G Bradley, 13-8 fav); 2, Tasman Oak (R Hyett, 25-1); 3, Nadiad (G McCourt, 25-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Far Over Stray (5th), 13-2 Gilt Preference, 15-2 Gospel Rock, 14 Hawwam, 16 Extra Grand, 20 Miners Luck, Huckleberry Win (pu), 25 Konvekta (pu), Wayside Boy (6th), 33 Royalist (pu), Smoke (pu), 50 Absailor (pu), Birstwith, Bowstring (4th), Cameroon Bay (f), Drag Artist. 19 ran. Hd, 6l, 5l, 7l, 6l. D Elsworth at Whitsbury. Tote: £2.70; £1.70, £9.20, £8.70. DF: £41.10. CSF: £44.36.

2.45 (3m ch) 1, **OAKLEY HOUSE** (Mr J Barlow, 13-2); 2, Clonroche Gazette (Mr H Wheeler, 14-1); 3, Eastern Destiny (Mr A Griffith, evens fav). ALSO RAN: 4 Ready Steady (f), 20 Borsen King (4th), Mayanncor (pu), Shandar (pu), Bridgetown Lad (pu), 25 Paddy Hayton (5th), 50 Mr Chris, Mariner's Lad (f). 11 ran. NR: Bold Baron. 2l, 12l, 6l, 15l. C Coxon at Bury. Tote: £8.40; £1.60, £2.40, £1.40. DF: £29.70. CSF: £80.71.

3.15 (2m hdle) 1, **SONDRIO** (G McCourt, 9-2); 2, Riverhead (G Bradley, 100-30); 3, Nomadic Way (P Scudamore, 8-13 fav). ALSO RAN: 16 Knights (5th), 33 Trimlough (4th). 5 ran. 7l, sh hd, dist, 6l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £5.70; £2.00, £1.30. DF: £9.50. CSF: £17.80.

3.45 (2m ch) 1, **THE ANTARTEX** (N Doughty, 11-4); 2, Marsjo (B Storey, 100-30); 3, Fuego Boy (B Dowling, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 5-4 fav Imarim Lib (f). 4 ran. 5l, 6l. G Richards at Greystoke. Tote: £3.00. DF: £4.20. CSF: £10.28.

4.15 (2m 4f ch) 1, **PACO'S BOY** (M Dwyer, 9-4); 2, Water Orchid (G McCourt, 100-30); 3, Bradwell (R Stronge, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 15-8 fav Roy's Dream (ur), 14 Temporary Affair (ur). 5 ran. 12l, 12l. J J O'Neill at Penrith. Tote: £2.80; £1.50, £1.90. DF: £4.30. CSF: £9.07.

4.45 (2m 4f hdle) 1, **RE-RELEASE** (D Richmond, 6-4 fav); 2, Hey Cottage (G McCourt, 6-1); 2, Amagret (D Byrne, 5-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Midland Glenn (5th), 12 Gunner Mac (4th), 16 Mitt de Lease (6th), 25 Whats What, 100 Vipsania. 8 ran. Hd, 3½l, 1½l, 25l, sh hd. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £2.60; £1.20, £1.70, £1.10. DF: £5.40. CSF: £10.99. Tricast: £20.00. After a stewards' enquiry, result stood.

Placepot: £65.70.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.10 (1m 6f) 1, **Majestic Image** (D Harrison, 10-1); 2, Beau Quest (5-1); 3, Bedouin Prince (15-2). Cribella 13-8 fav. 11 ran. 1½l, 6l. Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £16.50; £4.20, £1.10, £3.10. DF: £68.70. CSF: £56.61. Tricast: £367.52.

2.40 (1m) 1, **Parliamentary** (P Sedgwick, 9-4); 2, Kinoko (25-1); 3, Top-Anna (5-1). Saint Caligula 7-4 fav. 7 ran. NR: Rainstone. 3l, ¾l. M Brittain. Tote: £2.40; £2.00, £4.90. DF: £15.40. CSF: £40.44.

3.10 (1m) 1, **River Chase** (G Duffield, 7-1); 2, China Beach (6-1); 3, Countess Of Poland (2-1 fav). 14 ran. 6l, 10l. M Prescott. Tote: £11.50; £2.60, £2.60, £1.10. DF: £61.10. CSF: £47.38.

3.40 (6f) 1, **Silly's Brother** (J Fanning, 5-1); 2, On The Edge (4-1); 3, Crystal Heights (11-10 fav). 5 ran. 1½l, 3l. N Bycroft. Tote: £4.00; £2.00, £1.50. DF: £7.40. CSF: £21.49.

4.10 (7f) 1, **Obsidian Grey** (A Munro, Evens fav); 2, Native Suitor (50-1); 3, Supadupa (20-1). 11 ran. 8l, 1l. B McMahon. Tote: £3.20; £1.20, £6.60, £2.70. DF: £50.20. CSF: £45.45.

4.40 (1m) 1, **Dearest** (T Quinn, 9-4 jt-fav); 2, Vintage Type (8-1); 3, Mia Fillia (16-1). Super One 9-4 jt-fav. 6 ran. ½l, hd. P Cole. Tote: £4.00; £2.00, £5.20. DF: £19.20. CSF: £14.57.

Placepot: £73.80.

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Richards to land Haydock treble

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

GORDON Richards and Neale Doughty can hit the jackpot at Haydock Park today by landing a treble with **Carrick Hill Lad** (1.30), **Twin Oaks** (2.0) and **Last 'O' The Bunch** (3.30).

Having won three times on the Lancashire course already this season, Twin Oaks will net a £50,000 bonus for his connections if he manages to finish first or second in the Greenalls Gold Cup. I think he should be capable of winning both the race and the bonus outright.

A top-class novice during the 1987-88 season when he was trained by David Murray Smith, Twin Oaks has been nursed back to peak form by Richards this winter and won over three, three-and-a-half and four miles. In those races he accounted for his former stable companions Outside Edge and Aquilifer, who are now trained by Martin Pipe.

Today, the champion trainer has decided to take on Twin Oaks again with Aquilifer besides saddling Bonanza Boy.

While both will relish the soft ground, I still prefer Twin Oaks, especially since he will be meeting Aquilifer on 7lb better terms having already beaten him once by four lengths, albeit first time out.

Carrick Hill Lad is my selection for the *Timeform* Chase, which marks the publication today of *Racehorses of 1990*, the same organisation's masterly review of the previous Flat season, which is now on sale, priced £65. As both a collector's piece and a book of reference it is cheap at the price.

As far as its race is concerned, the sponsor is of the view that it will be won by Carrick Hill Lad and I agree, since he was trying to give 11lb to a good horse at Chepstow in December when he was beaten seven lengths by Cool Ground in the Welsh National. While today's distance is arguably short of his best, it should not inconvenience him.

Having won easily at Stratford a week ago, Last 'O' The Bunch should be too sharp for Young Benz in the Foster Refrigerator Group Novices' Chase. Young Benz has not raced since he fell at Ascot in January.

The final of the Tattersall's sponsored mares only series can go to **Trefelyn Cone**, who fell at Kempton a week ago after she, arguably, jumped the fence too well and lost her balance on landing.

New Duds, who was so impressive at Ascot last time, is the likely winner of the Vladivar Vodka Imperial Novices' Hurdle while the Victor Ludorum Hurdle can go to **Bottles**, whose defeat at Kempton last Saturday was attributed to lack of peak fitness after the cold snap.

My idea of the day's best bet, though, is **Captain Dibble**, who is napped to win the Philip Cornes Saddle Of Gold final at Newbury.

The only time this Nigel Twiston Davies-trained six-year-old has been beaten was when he failed by half a length to give Underbidder 8lb over today's course and distance in December. Today, they meet on equal terms. In the meantime, Captain Dibble has impressed when easily accounting for another useful novice, Upton Park, at Leicester.

Mr Entertainer, my choice for the Geoffrey Gilbey Memorial Handicap Chase, was an easy winner over the same course and distance towards the end of last year, prior to falling at Kempton when still in with a chance. He will enjoy today's better ground.

Spinning and Pashto are two classy recruits from Flat racing who make their jumping debuts in the Highclere Novices' Hurdle. **Spinning** is preferred.

Otherwise, the day could belong to Malton trainer Jimmy Fitzgerald, who has a clear chance of a double at Hereford with Uncle Ernie (3.15) and **Sybillin** (3.45), as well as treble at Market Rasen with **Lumberjack** (2.30), **Native Mission** (3.35) and **Forget The Rest** (4.10).

HAYDOCK PARK

Selections

By Mandarin
1.00 Trefelyn Cone.
1.30 Carrick Hill Lad.
2.00 Twin Oaks.
2.30 Bottles.
3.00 New Duds.
3.30 Last 'O' The Bunch.
4.00 Hornblower.

By Thunderer
1.00 Hi Jane.
1.30 Carrick Hill Lad.
2.00 Twin Oaks.
2.30 Reve De Valse.
3.00 New Duds.
3.30 Last 'O' The Bunch.
4.00 Hornblower.

Michael Seely's selection: 1.00 TREFELYN CONE (nap).

Going: soft

1.0 TATTERSALLS MARES ONLY NOVICES CHASE FINAL (Limited handicap: £7,180: 2m 4f) (5 runners) BBC1

1 1112-1F TREFELYN CONE 7 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Watts) M Pipe 7-12-0 P Scudamore ● 99
2 1211F1 HI JANE 60 (D,F,G,S) (W Barker) Mrs G Reveley 7-10-10 P Niven 95
3 0/25FF3 MULLOCH BRAE 40 (S) (P Lowe) D Nicholson 7-10-7 R Bellamy (3) 95
4 551/4F3 NORTHERN JINKS 37 (BF,G) (Mrs E Smith) O Sherwood 8-10-7 M Richards 96
5 662-4U4 MISS MUCK 10 (S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-7 C Maude (3) 92

Long handicap: Northern Jinks 9-13, Miss Muck 9-11.
BETTING: 4-6 Trefelyn Cone, 3-1 Hi Jane, 9-2 Northern Jinks, 6-1 Mulloch Brae, 20-1 Miss Muck.
1990: RADICAL LADY 6-10-12 M Dwyer (5-2 fav) G Moore 12 ran

FORM FOCUS TREFELYN CONE fell at the first at Kempton (2m 4f, good) on Saturday; earlier impressed when beating Buckby Folly 30l on chasing debut at Leicester (2m 4f, good to soft).
HI JANE overcame trouble in running to beat Marejo ½l at Catterick (2m, good to soft). MULLOCH BRAE 11l 3rd to Duncan Idaho in Leicester (2m 4f, soft) handicap hurdle: put up best chasing effort this season when ½l 2nd to Beau Parl at Warwick (2m 4f, good). NORTHERN JINKS staying-on 1¾l 4th to Tree Poppy at Newton Abbot (2m 5f, soft) with MISS MUCK (same terms), not jumping well, 4l 4th. MISS MUCK 35l 4th to Rolling Ball at Warwick (3m 1f, good to soft).
Selection: TREFELYN CONE

1.30 TIMEFORM CHASE (£10,112: 2m 4f) (4 runners) BBC1

1 PE3150 BRANDESTON 10 (D,F,G,S) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 8-11-8 D Murphy 65
2 132-112 CARRICK HILL LAD 70 (C,D,BF,G,S) (A Picken) G Richards 8-11-8 N Doughty ● 99
3 F3-12P1 ESPY 14 (D,F,G,S) (R A Bott (Wigmore St) Ltd) C Brooks 8-11-8 P Scudamore 84
4 113F22 ASTON EXPRESS 35 (B,C,D,G,S) (J Featherstone) G Moore 8-11-0 B Storey 81

BETTING: 2-5 Carrick Hill Lad, 3-1 Espy, 6-1 Aston Express, 16-1 Brandeston.
1990: TARTAN TAKEOVER 8-11-0 M Dwyer (2-1) G Richards 5 ran

FORM FOCUS BRANDESTON put up best recent effort when beating Mr Entertainer 7l at Chepstow (2m 4f, good).
CARRICK HILL LAD put in an excellent effort when 7l 2nd to Cool Ground in the Welsh National at Chepstow (3m 6f, good); earlier beat Mick's Star by 2½l over 3m 3f (good) on same course. ESPY pulled up behind Desert Orchid in the King George at Kempton (3m, good to soft); latest beat stablemate Gold Cap 10l at Windsor (3m, good to soft). ASTON EXPRESS ½l 2nd to Al Hashimi at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good).
Selection: CARRICK HILL LAD

2.0 GREENALLS GOLD CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£23,962: 3m 4f) (15 runners) BBC1

1 P-32P2P BONANZA BOY 58 (F,G,S) (S Dunster) M Pipe 10-11-10 S Smith Eccles 93
2 320P-34 YAHOO 70 (C,F,G,S) (A Parker) J Edwards 10-11-2 N Williamson 90
3 P-61111 TWIN OAKS 58 (CD,G,S) (J Moreton) G Richards 11-11-0 N Doughty ● 99
4 3PPP/21 AQUILIFER 42 (D,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 11-11-0 P Scudamore 96
5 6-12451 OVER THE ROAD 7 (G,S) (J Upson) J Upson 10-10-0 R Supple 88
6 0FP-P35 MIGHTY MARK 35 (D,G,S) (Mrs F Walton) F Walton 12-10-0 B Storey 82
7 3/4419P PLENTY CRACK 8 (S) (B Mactaggart) B Mactaggart 9-10-0 C Grant 84
8 0-P4221 TEAM CHALLENGE 12 (B,F,G,S) (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 9-10-0 M Bowlby 87
9 3PP-0PU HARLEY 7 (C,G,S) (Miss J Eaton) Miss J Eaton 11-10-0 Ger Lyons 79
10 21P-P00 WITHY BANK 28 (F,G,S) (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 9-10-0 J Callaghan (3) 81
11 P5-4131 ON THE TWIST 11 (G,S) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 9-10-0 D Murphy 81
12 3133PP/ BRABINER BOY 669 (F) (T Laxton) T Laxton 10-10-0 J J Quinn —
13 1551-P4 SANDICLIFFE BOY 29 (S) (G Bailey) R Lee 10-10-0 W McFarland 70
14 413434 LINGHAM BRIDE 28 (F,G,S) (J Swiers) J Swiers 9-10-0 A Orkney 58
15 43/25P-F BOLD SPARTAN 10 (S) (R Kirkland) J Oliver 8-10-0 J O'Gorman (3) 50

Long handicap: Over The Road 9-9, Mighty Mark 9-5, Plenty Crack 9-3, Team Challenge 9-3, Harley 9-2, Withy Bank 9-0, On The Twist 8-9, Brabiner Boy 8-8, Sandicliffe Boy 8-8, Lingham Bride 7-9, Bold Spartan 7-1.
BETTING: 6-4 Twin Oaks, 11-4 Aquilifer, 7-1 Over The Road, 8-1 Yahoo, 10-1 Bonanza Boy, 12-1 Team Challenge, 16-1 On The Twist, 20-1 Mighty Mark, Plenty Crack, 33-1 Sandicliffe Boy, 50-1 others.
1990: RINUS 9-10-4 R Dunwoody (11-2) G Richards 11 ran

FORM FOCUS BONANZA BOY 3l 2nd to Seagram at Cheltenham (4m, good to soft) on penultimate start. YAHOO 22½l 4th to Cool Ground in Welsh National at Chepstow (3m 6f, good) with BONANZA BOY pulled up 16th.
TWIN OAKS, improving performer, beat AQUILIFER (7lb worse off) 4l over 3m (soft) here. AQUILIFER subsequently stepped up on that effort when beating Ace Of Spies 15l at Warwick (3m 4f 180yd, soft). OVER THE ROAD beat Out Of Stock 1½l at Stratford (2m 6f, good to soft). MIGHTY MARK 11l 5th to Tactico at Ayr (2m 4f, good). PLENTY CRACK best recent effort when beating Aston Express 12l at Ayr (3m 100yd, heavy). TEAM CHALLENGE beat Boraceva 10l at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd). ON THE TWIST beat Sooner Still 20l at Huntingdon (3m).
Selection: TWIN OAKS

2.30 VICTOR LUDORUM HURDLE (4-Y-O: £7,310: 2m) (8 runners)

1 1 ALBERTITO 28 (D,G) (T Connop) R Hollinshead 11-4 Gary Lyons 89
2 6413 ALL WELCOME 8 (D,G) (Lionville Builders Ltd) G Moore 11-4 N Doughty 80
3 332 BIFOCAL 11 (V) (L Goddard) P Bevan 11-4 T Wall 90
4 12 BOTTLES 7 (D,BF,S) (Bottles Restaurant Sheringham) G Huffer 11-4 S Smith Eccles 96
5 6121 CRYSTAL BEAM 61 (D,F,S) (L Norris) P Kelleway 11-4 J A Harris 90
6 F PETERHOUSE 56 (A Saeed) C Brooks 11-4 P Scudamore —
7 2614 PINK GIN 29 (V,D,S) (C Platts) Miss S Hall 11-4 C Grant 85
8 221111 REVE DE VALSE 14 (D,G,S) (K Higson) Denys Smith 11-4 G Moore ● 99

BETTING: 13-8 Reve De Valse, 5-2 Bottles, 5-1 Albertito, 8-1 Crystal Beam, 10-1 Peterhouse, 14-1 Bifocal, 20-1 Pink Gin, 25-1 All Welcome.
1990: NINJA 11-4 R Dunwoody (5-1) D Nicholson 5 ran

3.0 VLADIVAR VODKA IMPERIAL NOVICES HURDLE (£3,964: 2m 4f) (14 runners)

1 1131 NEW DUDS 49 (F,S) (R Brichart) M Pipe 7-12-0 P Scudamore ● 99
2 043 PRIME DISPLAY 35 (S) (C Heath) O Sherwood 5-11-10 M Richards 94
3 11 YOUR WELL 12 (G,S) (D Newell) P Hobbs 5-11-10 B Clifford (7) 95
4 5 ANNIO CHILONE 30 (Mrs J Gifford) J Gifford 5-11-6 D Murphy 87
5 3005-25 ANOTHER DYER 73 (BF) (Edinburgh Woollen Mill Ltd) G Richards 7-11-6 N Doughty 83
6 0033/P0- FOREST LORD 426 (R Billingsley) D McCain 7-11-6 C Grant —
7 00445/5 QUAYAGE 60 (Duke of Devonshire) Mrs F Walwyn 8-11-6 K Mooney —
8 06- SHEDARBO 375 (D McCain) D McCain 6-11-6 Mr D McCain (7) —
9 00- SIMMIE 372 (G Hubbard) F Murphy 6-11-6 T Barry (7) 67
10 0 THE RUSTY NAIL 105 (J Scott) C Tinkler 6-11-6 R Supple —
11 52 TUROLDUS 32 (T Hemmings) S Mellor 6-11-6 Mr D Gray 82
12 30 NEEDWOOD FOREST 71 (Needwood Racing Ltd) B Morgan 6-11-1 N Coleman 62
13 00-043 RATHER GORGEOUS 52 (P Bailey) J Wilson 5-11-1 S Smith Eccles 76
14 REGAN 172F (D Gibbons) Miss J Barclay 4-10-5 B Storey —

BETTING: 7-4 New Duds, 5-2 Your Well, 11-2 Prime Display, 7-1 Annio Chilone, 12-1 Another Dyer, 16-1 Turoldus, 25-1 others.
1990: KING'S CURATE 6-11-6 S Cowley (7-1) S Mellor 9 ran

3.30 FOSTER REFRIGERATOR GROUP NOVICES CHASE (£7,300: 2m) (3 runners)

1 10-1111 LAST 'O' THE BUNCH 7 (D,F,G,S) (G Middlebrook) G Richards 7-11-11 N Doughty 98
2 45111F YOUNG BENZ 50 (CD,BF,S) (T Bennett) M H Easterby 7-11-11 L Wyer ● 99
3 24 JOHNNY'S SLIPPER 7 (P Piller) W A Stephenson 6-11-8 C Grant 86

BETTING: 10-11 Last 'O' The Bunch, 5-4 Young Benz, 11-2 Johnny's Slipper.
1990: FUEGO BOY 10-11-11 R Dunwoody (5-4) A J Wilson 5 ran

4.0 PETROS NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,969: 2m) (16 runners)

1 00/ BELLAGIO BILL 728 (C Bridgett) C Bridgett 6-11-10 Gary Lyons (3) —
2 GALLANTRY BANK (D McCain) D McCain 6-11-10 Mr D McCain (7) —
3 0 MR SNEEZE EASY 10 (E Daley) G Richards 5-11-10 D Barry (7) —
4 3- MUGONI BEACH 317 (J Ennis) M Pipe 6-11-10 M Foster (7) —
5 SO FAIR (Miss S Hall) Miss S Hall 5-11-10 R Hodge (7) —
6 0 TRAVAIL TEMPORAIRE 7 (Travail Group Ltd) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-10 C Maude (3) —
7 AMBHEGEE (Miss H Hall) R Price 6-11-5 Mr D Duggan (7) —
8 HYLTON ROAD (Mrs S Tainton) J Colston 5-11-5 G Robertson (7) —
9 PRINCESS PAMPLONA (P Kelly) J Bukovets 5-11-5 W Bird (7) —
10 SPOONHILL WOOD (R Micklethwait) J Wharton 5-11-5 R Bellamy (3) —
11 2 HORNBLOWER 10 (Mrs I Bray) M H Easterby 4-11-2 L Mullaney (7) —
12 4 NODFORM WONDER 10 (D Eddy) D Eddy 4-11-2 J Callaghan (3) —
13 0 TED'S FUTURE 8 (A Collins) J J O'Neill 4-11-2 F Murtagh (7) —
14 2 BELLEZZA 14 (K Higson) Denys Smith 4-10-11 D Crossman (7) —
15 0 MYBELLA ANN 36 (P De Weck) B Morgan 4-10-11 S D Williams (7) —
16 PERMITTED'S GIRL (K Jay) J Spearing 4-10-11 Miss T Spearing (7) —

BETTING: 2-1 Mugoni Beach, 3-1 Hornblower, 5-1 Bellezza, 8-1 Nodform Wonder, 10-1 Mr Sneeze Easy, 12-1 Ted's Future, So Fair, 20-1 Gallantry Bank, 25-1 others.
1990: PAMEVA 5-11-7 N Williamson (14-1) J Edwards 19 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
M Pipe	45	118	38.1	P Scudamore	41	100	41.0
C Brooks	6	23	26.1	R Supple	4	22	18.2
O Sherwood	4	20	20.0	N Doughty	8	55	14.5
M H Easterby	11	67	16.4	T Wall	3	24	12.5
J J O'Neill	7	47	14.9	L Wyer	6	55	10.9
G Richards	15	107	14.0	Only qualifiers			

(Not including yesterday's results)

Injured Davies misses festival

HYWEL Davies will be watching the Cheltenham festival from the stands this year after breaking his arm in a fall at Ludlow on Thursday.

The jump jockey, who has a hairline fracture along the main bone in his left arm, expects to be out of action for about three weeks.

Davies was riding the Tim Forster-trained Thursby in the Bromfield Novices' Chase when the horse blundered his way out of the race after diving straight at the fourth fence.

Only last year, he broke his festival duck with wins on Katabatic in the Grand Annual Chase and Barnbrook Again in the Champion Chase. He also had a Triumph Hurdle second on Ninja.

NEWBURY

Selections

By Mandarin
1.15 Le Piccolage.
1.45 CAPTAIN DIBBLE (nap).
2.15 Mr Entertainer.
2.45 Spinning.
3.15 Latent Talent.
3.45 Gran Alba.

By Thunderer
1.15 Southern Supreme.
1.45 PAR FOR THE COURSE (nap).
2.15 All Jeff.
2.45 Pashto.
3.15 Cardinal Puff.
3.45 Gran Alba.

Michael Seely's selection: 1.45 Captain Dibble.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.15 MR ENTERTAINER.

Going: good (chase); good to soft (hurdles) SIS

1.15 PHILIP CORNES INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT SERVICES NOVICES CHASE (£4,620: 2m 4f) (8 runners) BBC1

101 06P-42 ALL AFLOAT 42 (C MacSwiney) T Forster 7-11-4 C Llewellyn ● 99
102 2P/543-0 ESHA NESS 7 (G,S) (P Bancroft) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-4 M Pitman —
103 046- LE PICCOLAGE 381 (Lord Mostyn) N Henderson 7-11-4 R Dunwoody —
104 124/5-36 MAN ON THE LINE 47 (F,G) (L Randall) R Akehurst 8-11-4 G Bradley —
105 35-110F SOUTHERN SUPREME 9 (BF,G) (Southern Caravan Group) J Gifford 8-11-4 E Murphy —
106 F- SUNSHINE BLUES 350 (J Hewett) Mrs F Walwyn 8-11-4 B de Haan —
107 P-654F0 TIPPING TIM 30 (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-4 B Powell 96
108 36-0PF YEOMAN FARMER 35 (Mrs H Alwen) J Gifford 7-11-4 E McKinley —

BETTING: 3-1 Esha Ness, 7-2 Southern Supreme, Yeoman Farmer, 9-2 Le Piccolage, 10-1 All Afloat, Man On The Line, 16-1 Sunshine Blues, 20-1 Tipping Tim.
1990: COMANDANTE 8-11-6 Peter Hobbs (5-4 fav) J Gifford 8 ran

FORM FOCUS ALL AFLOAT 10l 2nd to highly-regarded File Concord at Warwick (2m 4f, soft). ESHA NESS, decent hurdler making chasing debut, 22½l 3rd to Cash Is King in Kempton (2m 4f, good) handicap hurdle on penultimate start.
LE PICCOLAGE put up best effort in novice hurdles last season when 6½l 4th to Grevaby at Towcester (2m, good to soft). MAN ON THE LINE 51½l 8th to Golden Celtic at Fontwell (2m 4f, soft). SOUTHERN SUPREME fell 5th on chasing debut at Folkestone (2m 4f, good) in contest won by Patricox; earlier was a smart novice hurdler when beating Saddlers Choice 10l over 2m 6f (good) on same course. TIPPING TIM 22½l 4th to Tubbs at Hereford (3m 1f, good) in November. YEOMAN FARMER fell at the first on chasing debut at Doncaster (2m 4f, good); earlier 18l 7th to Book Of Gold in decent novice hurdle company at Sandown (2m, good to soft).
Selection: ALL AFLOAT

1.45 PHILIP CORNES SADDLE OF GOLD HURDLE FINAL (£10,502: 3m 120yd) (15 runners) BBC1

201 111321 BANKER'S GOSSIP 11 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Sutton) D Nicholson 7-11-5 R Dunwoody 95
202 2-23110 BOLANEY BOY 10 (S) (R Seed) J J O'Neill 6-11-5 — 85
203 212203 BURGOYNE 35 (BF,G) (P Savill) M H Easterby 5-11-5 R Garritty 88
204 1-121 CAPTAIN DIBBLE 32 (F,G,S) (Mrs R Vaughan) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-5 C Llewellyn ● 99
205 22-0210 MONTAGNARD 10 (S) (N Gill) M Bradstock 7-11-5 G Bradley 79
206 30-P713 OTTERBURN HOUSE 63 (D,BF,F,G,S) (R Haggas) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-5 — 84
207 3/021 UNDERBIDDER 63 (V,CD,S) (Mrs I Smith) D Murray Smith 8-11-5 P Verling 92
208 2500-R5 ARD T'MATCH 8 (B,G) (J Rumble) S Sherwood 6-11-0 W Morris 84
209 U33121 CELTIC PRINCE 40 (D,S) (Mrs G Maxwell-Jones) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-0 B Powell 88
210 0-J6F02 CITY KID 37 (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 6-11-0 E Murphy 75
211 111025 CONCERT PAPER 55 (D,G,S) (S Hammond) Miss S Wilton 7-11-0 R Guest 91
212 1-32351 MERRY MASTER 18 (F,G) (G Lansbury) R Armytage 7-11-0 Gee Armytage 82
213 02F PAR FOR THE COURSE 31 (BF) (M Jackson Ltd) G Balding 6-11-0 J Frost 93
214 3-24312 SMITH'S CRACKER 58 (G) (Smith Mansfield Ltd) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-0 M Pitman 88
215 05 MOSSY FERN 47 (BF) (R Waters) O Sherwood 5-10-9 J Osborne 75

BETTING: 5-2 Captain Dibble, 3-1 Otterburn House, 9-2 Underbidder, 11-2 Banker's Gossip, 8-1 Par For The Course, Bolaney Boy, 10-1 Smith's Cracker, 12-1 Burgoyne, 16-1 others.
1990: MINNEHOMA 7-11-5 P Scudamore (Evens fav) M Pipe 6 ran

FORM FOCUS BANKERS GOSSIP finished very tired when beating Express Reale ¾l at Huntingdon (3m 1f, good to soft); earlier 12l 2nd to King's Curate at Ascot (3m, soft) with BURGOYNE well-beaten 8th. BOLANEY BOY beat SMITH'S CRACKER (5lb better off) 1½l at Haydock (2m 6f, soft) with CONCERT PAPER 60l 5th. CAPTAIN DIBBLE impressed when beating Upton Park 20l at Leicester (2m 4f, soft). MONTAGNARD beat Gray's Ellergy 12l at Nottingham (2m 6f, good to soft) with PAR FOR THE COURSE falling 8th. OTTERBURN HOUSE beat BURGOYNE (same terms) ¾l at Haydock (2m 6f, good to soft) with BOLANEY BOY (7lb worse off) 5l 3rd. UNDERBIDDER beat CAPTAIN DIBBLE (11lb better off) ½l over course and distance (good to soft) in December with OTTERBURN HOUSE distance 3rd. CELTIC PRINCE beat MONTAGNARD (11lb worse off) 3½l at Leicester (3m, soft). MERRY MASTER beat Morgans Harbour 8l at Catterick (3m 1f 80yd, good). PAR FOR THE COURSE made a very encouraging hurdling debut when staying-on 8l 2nd to Secret Four at Ascot (2m 4f, soft) with MERRY MASTER 11½l 5th, MONTAGNARD 8th and CITY KID 12th.
Selection: CAPTAIN DIBBLE

Guide to our in-line racecard

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

2.15 GEOFFREY GILBEY MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£7,564: 2m 4f) (9 runners)

301 22F11-1 ALL JEFF 91 (D,F,G,S) (Lady Joseph) C Brooks 7-11-10 J Osborne 82
302 F3P411- MIDNIGHT TRAIN 374 (D,G,S) (M Oberstein) Mrs J Pitman 10-11-9 M Pitman 88
303 110F-40 SIRE NANTAIS 39 (D,BF,F,S) (N Biggs) M Pipe 7-10-9 J Frost 80
304 353-2P4 BIRLING JACK 37 (S) (Mrs J Pautherer) J Edwards 10-10-8 D Tegg 87
305 221124 TACTICO 5 (B,D,BF,F,G,S) (I Dalgleish) J J O'Neill 9-10-5 G Bradley 95
306 PP-P640 CITY ENTERTAINER 10 (D,S) (J Wright) Miss H Knight 10-10-3 B Dowling —
307 0/0515-3 BUCKSHEE BOY 38 (CD,G,S) (J Pilkington) J Pilkington 9-10-3 R Guest 88
308 111-21F MR ENTERTAINER 42 (CD,BF,G,S) (M Boddington) N Gaselee 8-10-3 B Powell ● 99
309 140-22P GEMBRIDGE JUPITER 120 (CD,F,G,S) (A Carver) C Tinkler 13-10-1 S Earle 90

BETTING: 9-4 Mr Entertainer, 9-2 All Jeff, 5-1 Tactico, 11-2 Midnight Train, 8-1 Sire Nantais, 12-1 Birling Jack, Buckshee Boy, 16-1 City Entertainer, 20-1 Gembridge Jupiter.
1990: GEMBRIDGE JUPITER 12-10-9 P Dever (9-1) C Tinkler 8 ran

2.45 HIGHCLERE NOVICES HURDLE (4-Y-O: £3,886: 2m 100yd) (10 runners)

401 53F ALOSAILI 11 (J Marshall) B Stevens 11-0 — 80
402 42 BOLD STREET BLUES 49 (W Love) C Smith 11-0 C Smith 72
403 P HAWAIIAN REEF 28 (Mrs G Foster) N Henderson 11-0 J Osborne —
404 6 KAYTAK 43 (T Myles & Co (Contractors) Ltd) J Jenkins 11-0 B Powell 61
405 0422 LAND AFAR 19 (V) (Mrs D Watts) J O'Shea 11-0 J Bryan 77
406 L'UOMO CLASSICS 121F (B) (C Pratt) Mrs J Pitman 11-0 M Pitman —
407 23 MUSE 9 (Whse Horse Racing Ltd) D Elsworth 11-0 P Holley ● 99
408 PASHTO 133F (R Tooth) N Henderson 11-0 R Dunwoody —
409 SPINNING 168F (P Mellon) I Balding 11-0 J Frost —
410 5553 WOODSIDE HEATH 65 (M Power) J Moore 11-0 A Charlton 77

BETTING: 5-4 Spinning, 3-1 Pashto, 7-2 Muse, 8-1 L'Uomo Classics, 12-1 Kaytak, 14-1 Bold Street Blues, Hawaiian Reef, 16-1 others.
1990: DARK DESIRE 11-4 M Richards (4-1 jt-fav) M Francis 14 ran

3.15 WICKHAM NOVICES CHASE (£3,275: 3m) (10 runners)

501 284-11F CARDINAL RALPH 28 (G) (Mrs S Embiricos) J Gifford 7-12-0 E Murphy 97
502 1-31230 HEIGHT OF FUN 36 (F) (Mrs B Samuel) O Sherwood 7-11-9 J Osborne 95
503 110-F1F STATELY LOVER 42 (S) (Mrs J Bishop) D Grissell 8-11-9 NON-RUNNER —
504 2128-22 CLOSE ESCAPE 60 (BF,S) (Mrs J Debenham) N Henderson 8-11-4 R Dunwoody 93
505 328/233 COUNTRY CAP 8 (S) (R Townsend) R Townsend 10-11-4 Mr D Townsend 90
506 65-4F03 GIVUS A BUCK 36 (B,S) (K Costello) D Elsworth 8-11-4 P Holley 94
507 1P-52U2 LATENT TALENT 30 (BF,G,S) (Mrs C Heath) S Sherwood 7-11-4 G Bradley ● 99
508 33/1-32F LEAVENWORTH 28 (BF,G) (I MacDonald) T Forster 7-11-4 C Llewellyn 95
509 0P-4435 MIGHTY FALCON 30 (B,S) (R Tory) D Elsworth 6-11-4 B Powell 79
510 42P-2PF TURPIN'S GREEN 36 (Lord Vestey) J King 8-11-4 B Dowling 94

BETTING: 11-4 Close Escape, 4-1 Cardinal Ralph, 9-2 Latent Talent, 6-1 Mighty Falcon, 6-1 Givus A Buck, 10-1 Leavenworth, 12-1 Height Of Fun, 16-1 others.
1990: ARCTIC CALL 7-12-0 J Osborne (6-1) O Sherwood 10 ran

3.45 EASTLEIGH HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,110: 2m 100yd) (10 runners)

601 254322- SMART PERFORMER 325 (CD,G,S) (R Gomersall) N Tinkler 6-11-10 M Hill 99
602 10-1346 SPRING HAY 49 (CD,G,S) (A Saeed) D Nicholson 5-11-7 R Dunwoody 95
603 3346-34 IMPERIAL BRUSH 48 (B,CD,G,S) (P Pulton) D Elsworth 7-11-6 P Holley 97
604 00P/1-05 LEMHILL 18 (D,F) (P Green) M Pipe 9-11-5 D Richmond (7) 95
605 411502/ KABARTAYLAR 660 (B,S) (R Green (Fine Paintings)) M Pipe 6-11-0 J Frost —
606 3F0-540 ALKINOR REX 42 (D,S) (M Paraskos) M Francis 6-11-0 J Osborne 97
607 302/000- MAGNUS PYM 378 (D,S) (R Standbridge) D Elsworth 6-11-0 A McCabe (7) —
608 51 GRAN ALBA 43 (D,G) (D Thompson) R Hannon 5-10-12 G Bradley 92
609 20112-4 IVORS GUEST 44 (B,D,F) (Mrs E Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 5-10-8 M Pitman ● 99
610 BF1F3P/ SMITH'S GAMBLE 783 (D,G,S) (A Smith) Mrs J Pitman 8-10-1 J Leech (3) —

BETTING: 7-2 Imperial Brush, 9-2 Gran Alba, 5-1 Ivors Guest, 7-1 Spring Hay, 8-1 Smart Performer, 10-1 Smith's Gamble, Lemhill, 12-1 Alkinor Rex, Magnus Pym, 14-1 Kabartaylar.
1990: VOYAGE SANS RETOUR 5-10-11 M Perrett (8-1) M Pipe 13 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
I Balding	6	11	54.5	J Osborne	13	62	21.0
M Pipe	21	64	32.8	P Holley	6	30	20.0
N Twiston-Davies	3	12	25.0	R Dunwoody	39	216	18.1
T Forster	24	97	24.7	C Llewellyn	7	39	17.9
C Brooks	10	42	23.8	M Pitman	6	44	13.6
M Francis	4	19	21.1	J Frost	8	68	11.8

(Not including yesterday's results)

MARKET RASEN

Selections

By Mandarin
2.0 Avonburn. 2.30 Lumberjack. 3.5 Dalkey Sound. 3.35 Native Mission. 4.10 Forget The Rest. 4.40 River House.

By Thunderer
2.0 Avonburn. 2.30 Senegalais. 3.5 Lacidar. 3.35 Native Mission. 4.10 Forget The Rest. 4.40 Hey Rawley.

Going: soft (chase course); good to soft (hurdles) SIS

2.0 SWINDERBY AMATEUR RIDERS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,232: 2m 6f) (9 runners)

1 -U10 FLAIRY LAD 70 (BF,G) R Lee 7-12-0 S Blackwell (7)
2 4041 LUPY MINSTREL 30 (G) C Parker 6-12-0 D Parker (7)
3 -103 AVONBURN 44 (F) M Robinson 7-11-9 K Comerford (7)
4 20-P BARON TWO SHOES 49 P Blockley 5-11-9 D Cockram (7)
5 0/F MOYRA LAD 10 J Parkes 7-11-9 S Charlton (7)
6 0-3U THE CITY MINSTREL 10 (BF,G) J Edwards 6-11-9 A Farrant (7)
7 1/ THE MERRY GAMBLER 1071 (S) M Pipe 9-11-9 F Mensler (7)
8 0F6P UNOR 8 T Tate 5-11-9 R Ford (7)
9 0P MAID OF FIFE 71 S Campion 6-11-4 Mrs J Campion (7)

2-1 The Merry Gambler, 5-2 The City Minstrel, 4-1 Avonburn, 6-1 Flairy Lad, 8-1 Unor, 12-1 others.

2.30 A F BUDGE NOVICES CHASE (£3,262: 2m 6f) (14)

1 /4/ BABSLAD 696 (S) K Morgan 9-11-3 Dale McKeown
2 1-23 BLAKES SON 7 (F) M W Easterby 6-11-3 T Reed
3 122- BONNIE DUNDEE 296 (F) J Edwards 7-11-3 G McCourt
4 0P/ DIXONS HOMEFINDER 712 J Mackie 7-11-3 S J O'Neill
5 35-F KIRSTY'S BOY 7 (G,S) J S Wilson 8-11-3 L O'Hara (3)
6 P6P- LUCKY RETURN 427 T McGovern 9-11-3 M Brennan
7 -150 LUMBERJACK 28 (S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-3 P Harley
8 4F0P LYNKIMGEM 7 (C,S) M Chapman 5-11-3 W Worthington
9 6-00 PRECIOUS MEMORIES 10 (G) J Leigh 6-11-3 R Marley
10 6-62 SENEGALAIS 87 (S) S Mellor 7-11-3 M Perrett
11 -U6P WATERSIGN 8 G Cottsworth 10-11-3 G Harker
12 /5U WHEATLEY LAD 7 D Edmunds 8-11-3 D Shaw
13 -552 CAROUSEL CROSSETT 5 E Cane 10-10-12 Mr J Beardsall
14 1-60 STEPFASTER 7 (G) W A Stephenson 8-10-12 Mr K Johnson

5-4 Lumberjack, 7-2 Senegalais, 6-1 Bonnie Dundee, 8-1 Kirsty's Boy, Blakes Son, 14-1 Carousel Crossett, 16-1 others.

3.5 COLIN G R BOOTH TRANSPORT HANDICAP CHASE (£5,531: 3m) (7)

1 -43F FOUR TRIX 91 (D,F,G,S) G Richards 10-11-10 G McCourt
2 1U1F DALKEY SOUND 7 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) Mrs G Reveley 8-10-11 P Niven
3 1-51 LACIDAR 7 (D,F,G,S) J Johnson 11-10-9 T Reed
4 683U ASTRE RADIEUX 10 (G,S) S Mellor 6-10-7 M Perrett
5 U41U TRAVEL OVER 7 (BF,G,S) R Lee 10-10-5 J Shortt
6 20-P WEIRPOOL 98 (D,F,G) M Robinson 9-10-0 J White
7 3-08 RAISE AN ARGUMENT 10 (G,S) J J O'Neill 12-10-0 D Byrne

6-4 Dalkey Sound, 3-1 Lacidar, 4-1 Travel Over, 5-1 Four Trix, 7-1 Astre Radieux, 12-1 others.

3.35 NEWARK STORAGE JUVENILE HURDLE (4-Y-O: £3,980: 2m 1f) (9)

1 111 MONTPELIER LAD 71 (F,G,S) G Richards 11-0 G McCourt
2 112 NATIVE MISSION 35 (BF,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 11-0 D Byrne
3 0P02 SCARLET EXPRESS 12 (G) J Harris 11-0 Dale McKeown
4 0424 TYBURN LAD 42 (G) H Collingridge 10-11 V Smith
5 00SF BULLACE 71 K Morgan 10-7 P Niven
6 24 GILDED PAST 17F M Chapman 10-7 W Worthington
7 ST ROBERT 131F T McGovern 10-7 M Brennan
8 331P GOLDKRONE 50 (D,S) M Robinson 10-6 J White
9 0448 ALBURY GREY 7 R Curtis 10-2 R Goldstein

4-7 Native Mission, 3-1 Montpelier Lad, 10-1 Goldkrone, 12-1 Tyburn Lad, 16-1 Scarlet Express, 20-1 others.

4.10 VICTOR LUCAS MEMORIAL LONG DISTANCE NOVICES HURDLE (£3,094: 3m) (14)

1 2312 FORGET THE REST 35 (BF,G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-8 D Byrne
2 51P5 MIDNIGHT MISS 35 (G) M Robinson 7-11-8 J White
3 05PP ABLE SAILOR 7 (G,S) C Smith 11-11-3 Mr M Ranger (7)
4 0/P ADSBURY 31 R Curtis 8-11-3 R Goldstein
5 UFU- CORBITTS MILITARIA 273 B Ellison 9-11-3 N Roche (7)
6 63 DARK OAK 58 J McConnochie 5-11-3 J Shortt
7 0432 EXPRESS REALE 11 (V) T Thomson Jones 6-11-3 P Barnard (3)
8 6/0- GUTE NACHT 435 O Brennan 8-11-3 M Brennan
9 6022 KANGAROO COURT 35 J J O'Neill 5-11-3 P Niven
10 06P0 KOLINSKY 7 M Chapman 5-11-3 W Worthington
11 /23- OUIDEST 487 A Fowler 8-11-3 P Harley
12 0-P0 SONIC LORD 7 B Gee 6-11-3 Dale McKeown
13 4045 SPRING COTTAGE 8 W Hardy 11-11-3 S Turner
14 -PP0 HAVE A BREEZE 10 D Morrill 5-10-12 D Gilbrap (7)

1-2 Forget The Rest, 5-1 Express Reale, 6-1 Kangaroo Court, 10-1 Kolinsky, 14-1 Midnight Miss, 16-1 others.

4.40 BINBROOK HANDICAP CHASE (£3,209: 2m 6f) (11)

1 1211 RIVER HOUSE 30 (F,G) W A Stephenson 9-11-10 Mr K Johnson
2 -0FP SHADY ROAD 63 (BF,G,S) G Richards 9-11-1 G McCourt
3 1UU- BROCKHILL BOY 304 (D,S) C Beever 9-10-10 M Perrett
4 FU1P VALENTINOS JOY 10 (C,F,G,S) G Oldroyd 12-10-9 D Byrne
5 50-4 INSPECTOR BEN 32 (F,S) J Smith 12-10-8 M Brennan
6 1224 AINSTY FOX 30 (G,S) B Ellison 7-10-7 —
7 03U6 MAGWOOD 10 (S) C Parker 11-10-6 L O'Hara (3)
8 5123 HEY RAWLEY 7 (CD,G,S) Mrs G Reveley 8-10-5 P Niven
9 2-PP ROCKCLIFFE 10 (C,F) T Cunningham 12-10-0 N Smith (5)
10 46P- PREBEN FUR 320 (D,F,G,S) M Chapman 14-10-0 W Worthington
11 P506 LITTLE BRYMA 10 L Parry 9-10-0 —

9-4 River House, 3-1 Hey Rawley, 5-1 Ainsty Fox, 6-1 Shady Road, 8-1 Valentinos Joy, 10-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: R Lee, 5 winners from 11 runners, 45.5%; M Pipe, 21 from 55, 38.2%; G Richards, 21 from 76, 27.6%; Jimmy Fitzgerald, 44 from 186, 23.7%; Mrs G Reveley, 13 from 56, 23.2%; J J O'Neill, 3 from 13, 23.1%.

JOCKEYS: G McCourt, 20 winners from 62 rides, 32.3%; Mr K Johnson, 5 from 16, 31.3%; D Byrne, 13 from 58, 22.4%; P Niven, 17 from 111, 15.3%; M Brennan, 22 from 221, 10.0%; D Shaw, 4 from 47, 8.5%.

HEREFORD

Selections

By Mandarin
2.15 Knight's Spur. 2.45 Man O'Magic. 3.15 Uncle Ernie. 3.45 Sybillin. 4.15 Burnt Fingers. 4.45 Meryett. 5.15 Estwing.

By Thunderer
2.15 Hinton Mariner. 2.45 Mou-Dafa. 3.15 Uncle Ernie. 3.45 Sybillin. 4.15 Noel Luck. 4.45 Duke Of Abson. 5.15 My Swan Song.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.45 Sybillin.
Brian Beel's selection: 4.45 Spring Socks.

Going: good

2.15 ST DAVID'S NOVICES HURDLE (£1,463: 2m) (10 runners)

1 P8 BOXING MATCH 7 R Eckley 10-12 D Gallagher
2 3 HINTON MARINER 133 S Sherwood 10-12 A S Smith (5)
3 3224 KNIGHT'S SPUR 11 J Webber 10-12 M Lynch
4 6 MIAMI SPLASH 14 P Hobbs 10-12 S McNeill
5 MY WIZARD N Gaselee 10-12 A Adams
6 STAR OF ITALY Mrs I McKie 10-12 J Duggan
7 054 BARRICA 14 (BF) D Nicholson 10-7 D Bridgwater (7)
8 380 CHARMED I'M SURE 44 R Holder 10-7 N Mann
9 0 PLATINUM SPRINGS 51 P Jones 10-7 M Kinane
10 RUNEKA M Oliver 10-7 J Railton

7-4 Knight's Spur, 9-4 Hinton Mariner, 9-2 Barrica, 7-1 Charmed I'm Sure, 8-1 My Wizard, 10-1 others.

2.45 NEWENT CHASE (£2,882: 2m 3f) (6)

1 2614 MAN O'MAGIC 7 (F,G,S) (B,CD) K Bailey 10-12-0 A Tory
2 1-UP MISTER FEATHERS 184 (F,G) J King 10-11-0 J Kavanagh (3)
3 1-43 MOU-DAFA 8 (F,G,S) M Pipe 11-10-12 M Dwyer
4 /1-4 CARROLLS GROVE 46 (G) D Burchell 10-10-11 D J Burchell
5 /P-P KISSANE 58 (G,S) C Broad 10-10-10 Martin Jones (3)
6 3/2- RAMBLING SONG 472 (G,S) T Forster 11-10-10 J Railton

11-10 Mou-Dafa, 2-1 Man O'Magic, 5-1 Rambling Song, 12-1 Carrolls Grove, 14-1 Mister Feathers, 33-1 Kissane.

3.15 MALVERN NOVICES CHASE (£2,617: 2m) (3)

1 1111 UNCLE ERNIE 17F (D,G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-12-0 M Dwyer
2 0U/ HIGH WARRIOR 876 (B,S) D Burchell 8-11-2 D J Burchell
3 5-63 BARLEY MOW 58 (F) J White 5-10-9 A Webb

1-6 Uncle Ernie, 6-1 Barley Mow, 14-1 High Warrior.

3.45 FRED RIMELL HURDLE (£2,477: 2m) (4)

1 00-P ARTFUL ABBOT 10 (D,F,S) J Webber 7-11-6 M Lynch
2 4164 ROYAL DERBI 9 (CD,F,G,S) N Callaghan 6-11-6 J Twomey (7)
3 F242 RYDE AGAIN 7 (B,D,F,S) P Cundell 8-11-6 R Strange
4 30-2 SYBILLIN 17F (D,F,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-6 M Dwyer

6-4 Sybillin, 2-1 Ryde Again, 9-4 Royal Derbi, 66-1 Artful Abbot.

4.15 MARCH NOVICES SELLING HURDLE (£1,964: 2m 3f) (12)

1 -100 NOEL LUCK 80 (BF,S) Mrs S Oliver 11-11-11 R Hyett
2 20- BURNT FINGERS 421 J White 7-11-5 D Skyrme (3)
3 0P02 CHANGE WEAR 28 J King 5-11-5 S Curran (7)
4 -6PP ELECTRIC DANCER 42F (B) C Horgan 5-11-5 R Beggan
5 0FU0 MAHONSTOWN BRIDGE 18 P Rodford 11-11-5 —
6 RFL STEEL F Jordan 6-11-5 J Lodder (3)
7 P/ TARTAR TUDOR 889 R Thompson 10-11-5 B Dalton (7)
8 0-PP BLUEGRASS LADY 10 (B) R Juckes 5-11-0 A Juckes (7)
9 0-0 BUILDMARK 9 W G M Turner 5-11-0 M Lynch
10 65F0 FRANS GIRL 30 C Popham 8-11-0 S Donohoe (7)
11 P TOP RHYTHM 7 (V) R Eckley 7-11-0 M Courtney (7)
12 0 PATH OF CONDIE 31 (B) M Pipe 4-10-11 M Dwyer

2-1 Path Of Condie, 7-2 Burnt Fingers, 9-2 Noel Luck, 6-1 Change Wear, 8-1 Frans Girl, 12-1 Electric Dancer, 14-1 others.

4.45 CHARLIE KNIPE MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,746: 3m 1f) (8)

1 43P- BORDER LOCH 511 P Davis 7-12-0 L Brown (7)
2 U CAT-ARROWED 5 M Pountney 6-12-0 C Hancock (7)
3 0U0- DUKE OF ABSON 403 D Barons 7-12-0 R Curtis (7)
4 IM PRIVILAGED 1332F D Bloor 7-12-0 D Bloor (7)
5 3- MILK QUOTA 325 B Eckley 8-12-0 R Farrant (7)
6 /55- SOUTHSTONE ROCK 277 R Taylor 8-12-0 R Heathfield (7)
7 3FF- MERYETT 384 M Nelmes-Crocker 7-11-9 P Davis (7)
8 6 SPRING SOCKS 10 Mrs G England 7-11-9 K Cousins (7)

3-1 Spring Socks, 4-1 Meryett, 5-1 Border Loch, 6-1 Milk Quota, Cat-Arrowed, 8-1 Im Privilaged, 10-1 others.

5.15 FEDERATION OF BRITISH RACING CLUBS NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,320: 2m) (17)

1 0212 ESTWING 19 Mrs S Oliver 8-11-10 Jacqui Oliver
2 -106 KILHALLON CASTLE 37 (S) S Horn 8-11-1 D Skyrme (3)
3 0-20 THE KENDALIST 61 T Forster 7-10-13 J Railton
4 -600 MALAMUTE SALOON 16 (B) M Pipe 5-10-7 R Beggan
5 222- NATIVE SCOT 122F F Lee 5-10-6 C Hawkins
6 3365 MY SWAN SONG 89 J Smith 6-10-6 P Dever
7 0115 PEAK DISTRICT 9 (B,D,S) K Bridgwater 5-10-5 D Bridgwater (7)
8 6/4 LOGANBANK 54 M Robinson 8-10-2 J Duggan
9 1100 SUSAN HENCHARD 53 (CD,G) M Barraclough 7-10-2 S McNeill
10 -64P CREAM AND GREEN 66 K White 7-10-2 A O'Hagan
11 -P0P HI BOOTS 44 P Jones 6-10-2 W McFarland
12 0364 CROSSOFSPANCILHILL 7 C Tinkler 5-10-1 A Adams
13 P00F HELMAR 71 F Jordan 5-10-0 J Lodder (3)
14 /P6 NICOLENE'S HOPE 7 C Broad 9-10-0 Martin Jones (3)
15 3020 COME ON TOBY 10 S Cole 5-10-0 N Mann
16 /0P MAWDLYN GATE 49 Mrs V Teal 8-10-0 Mr R Teal (7)
17 253- DRAW LOTS 372 P Rodford 7-10-0 —

11-2 Peak District, 6-1 Susan Henchard, 7-1 Estwing, Malamute Saloon, 10-1 Native Scot, My Swan Song, 12-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 43 winners from 145 runners, 29.7%; D Burchell, 11 from 45, 24.4%; D Nicholson, 15 from 62, 24.2%; T Forster, 15 from 67, 22.4%; Mrs S Oliver, 8 from 39, 20.5%; K Bailey, 15 from 78, 19.2%.

JOCKEYS: D J Burchell, 9 winners from 40 rides, 22.5%; A Tory, 3 from 16, 18.8%; R Beggan, 11 from 65, 16.9%; N Mann, 3 from 18, 16.7%; J Duggan, 3 from 25, 12.0%. (Only qualifiers).

LINGFIELD PARK

Selections

By Mandarin
1.25 Chatham Island. 1.55 Erris Express. 2.25 Fact Or Fiction. 2.55 Craft Express. 3.25 Matomani. 3.55 Jovial Kate.

By Thunderer
1.25 Chatham Island. 1.55 Erris Express. 2.25 Fact Or Fiction. 2.55 Craft Express. 3.25 Windsor Park. 3.55 Verro.

Going: standard SIS
Draw: 6f-1m, low numbers best

1.25 BUZZARD MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,434: 7f) (7 runners)

1 25- AMIGOS 147 P Mitchell 9-0 G Baxter 4
2 50- CHATHAM ISLAND 133 C Brittain 9-0 B Doyle (7) 2
3 5322 OAK PARK 14 R Stubbs 9-0 A Munro 7
4 PETANK Pat Mitchell 9-0 Ron Hillis (3) 5
5 500- GILDED OMEN 203 J Bridger 8-9 Rachel Bridger (7) 1
6 -222 MERITSU 14 D Elsworth 8-9 J Williams 3
7 0-45 MIDSUMMER COMMON 14 A Moore 8-9 Candy Morris 6

6-4 Chatham Island, 7-2 Oak Park, 9-2 Meritsu, 6-1 Amigos, 8-1 Midsummer Common, 12-1 Petank, Gilded Omen.

1.55 HARRIER CLAIMING STAKES (£2,629: 7f) (10)

1 43/ EAGLES LAIR 886 D Marks 5-9-2 S Dawson 6
2 0-31 ERRIS EXPRESS 17 (F,G) F Durr 6-8-11 G Baxter 4
3 1-00 FRENCH LEGIONNAIRE 14 (F) Mrs S Armytage 4-8-10 J Williams 5
4 00-0 DEEP REEF 14 (S) J Baker 5-8-6 N Adams 1
5 00-4 RUIZ MIGUEL 28 L Cottrell 5-8-6 C Rutter 7
6 3-30 SCOTS LAW 28 (C,D,F) R O'Sullivan 4-8-6 D Biggs (5) 9
7 000/ ST ELMO'S FIRE 9J (F,S) C Brooks 6-8-6 G Duffield 10
8 0-1 WINDSOR HIGHNESS 25 (CD) M Muggeridge 4-8-4 S O'Gorman (5) 3
9 06-2 CARNEGIE DELI 28 S Dow 4-8-2 T Williams 2
10 0-60 LUCKY CRYSTAL 14 (D,F) A Moore 5-7-13 Candy Morris 8

7-4 Erris Express, 7-2 Windsor Highness, 9-2 Carnegie Deli, 6-1 Ruiz Miguel, 8-1 St Elmo's Fire, 10-1 others.

2.25 BARN OWL HANDICAP (£2,768: 1m 4f) (8)

1 5-12 FACT OR FICTION 11 (V,CD,F) Miss B Sanders 5-10-0 W Newnes 1
2 6-20 TRIPLICATE 39 J Dunlop 5-8-11 G Duffield 7
3 -351 SCOTONI 11 (CD,F) R O'Sullivan 5-8-5 D Biggs (5) 2
4 01-4 EASY PURCHASE 50 (CD) D Haydn Jones 4-9-2 J Williams 5
5 300- AIREDALE 236 (F) W Haggas 4-8-13 R Hills 8
6 50-0 ROUSILLON TO BE 50 J Bethell 4-8-12 H Yuce 6
7 2225 CUT A CAPER 11 (C,F) R O'Sullivan 5-8-1 T Williams 3
8 /0/ THE WOODEN HUT 70J (D,S) R Voorspuy 8-7-12 S Dawson 4

11-4 Easy Purchase, 3-1 Fact Or Fiction, 4-1 Triplicate, 5-1 Scotoni, 7-1 Cut A Caper, 8-1 Airedale, 10-1 others.

2.55 SPARROWHAWK HANDICAP (£5,484: 7f) (7)

1 140- AITCH N'BEE 128 (D,G,S) Lady Herries 8-10-0 G Foster 3
2 -222 RESPECTABLE JONES 39 (C,F,G,S) G Balding 5-9-11 J Williams 1
3 80-3 CRAFT EXPRESS 39 (G) M Johnston 5-9-5 R P Elliott 5
4 -261 AFRICAN CHIMES 11 (B,CD) W O'Gorman 4-9-4 Emma O'Gorman (5) 4
5 3-00 HURRICANE POWER 11 (C,G) J Bethell 4-9-2 H Yuce 2
6 2334 MURMURING 11 (C) S Dow 5-8-2 D Biggs (5) 7
7 2-02 GOZONE 11 P Mitchell 4-8-0 B Doyle (7) 6

11-4 Respectable Jones, 3-1 Craft Express, 7-2 African Chimes, 5-1 Murmuring, 8-1 Gozone, 8-1 others.

3.25 OSPREY HANDICAP (£2,629: 1m 2f) (14)

1 550- DANCING BRIDE 188 J Bethell 4-9-10 H Yuce 6
2 4/0- AUCTION TIME 28J (CD,S) J Akehurst 8-9-8 S O'Gorman (5) 3
3 6446 WINDSOR PARK 7 (C,D,G) R O'Sullivan 5-9-3 D Biggs (5) 11
4 6-05 PREMIER DANCE 38 D Haydn Jones 4-9-2 J Williams 4
5 -230 WIZZARD MAGIC 25 (V,C,D,F) M Haynes 8-8-13 P D'Arcy 2
6 500- MATOMANI 155 D Murray Smith 4-8-12 R Wernham 8
7 2433 HAND PAINTED 8 J Pearce 7-8-7 S Dawson 14
8 00-0 YARRA GLEN 11 M Muggeridge 4-8-6 N Adams 12
9 000- CROSBY PLACE 120 (CD,F) M Haynes 5-8-5 C Rutter 5
10 00-0 MOOR FROLICKING 15 (C,F,G) T Jones 5-8-3 N Carlisle 13
11 4-64 SWEET 'N' LOW 8 M Tompkins 4-8-3 R Hills 1
12 50/4 BONDAID 11 J White 7-7-12 T Williams 10
13 00/2 IMMORTAL IRISH 11 D Gandolfo 6-7-9 B Doyle (7) 9
14 600/ SILVER CANNON 106J (F,S) R Voorspuy 9-7-9 — 7

7-2 Premier Dance, 9-2 Immortal Irish, 5-1 Windsor Park, 6-1 Hand Painted, 8-1 Sweet N' Low, 10-1 Bondaid, 12-1 others.

3.55 MERLIN HANDICAP (£2,586: 6f) (10)

1 -315 SALLY'S SON 15 (B,CD,BF,F) W O'Gorman 5-10-0 Emma O'Gorman (5) 4
2 5-13 DAMASKEEN 14 (C,BF,F) Mrs S Armytage 5-9-10 J Williams 7
3 102- BAYSH 587 (D) J Long 5-8-8 W Lord 3
4 5-00 PLEASANT EXHIBIT 8 (F) J Bethell 4-9-7 H Yuce 1
5 -321 JOVIAL KATE 11 (C) M Usher 4-8-4 C Rutter 8
6 3-00 ERIK ODIN 8 (C) Mrs L Piggott 4-8-8 B Crossley 9
7 00-2 ARC LAMP 8 (G) J Glover 5-8-7 P D'Arcy 10
8 5041 VERRO 8 (B,D) J Bennett 4-8-0 N Carlisle 6
9 03/6 SILENT SISTER 25 (D,S) A Moore 5-7-9 S Dawson 2
10 -056 HOT HOPE 25 (C) J Bridger 4-7-7 N Adams 5

9-4 Jovial Kate, 3-1 Sally's Son, 4-1 Baysh, 5-1 Arc Lamp, 6-1 Verro, 8-1 Silent Sister, 10-1 Erik Odin, 12-1 others.

Course specialists

TRAINERS: M Muggeridge, 2 winners from 3 runners, 67.7%; W A O'Gorman, 10 from 36, 27.8%; G Balding, 3 from 11, 27.3%; Mrs S Armytage, 1 from 4, 25.0%; J Akehurst, 3 from 13, 23.1%; M Johnston, 6 from 27, 22.2%.

JOCKEYS: Emma O'Gorman, 8 winners from 28 rides, 28.6%; S O'Gorman, 12 from 57, 21.0%; R P Elliott, 5 from 24, 20.8%; R Wernham, 8 from 39, 20.5%; B Doyle, 5 from 27, 18.5%; G Duffield, 15 from 87, 17.2%.

● There are no horses wearing blinkers for the first time today.

The Fellow warms up

From OUR FRENCH RACING CORRESPONDENT, PARIS

THE Fellow is being given an unorthodox run over hurdles at Auteuil tomorrow in order to sharpen him up for his attempt on the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

The six-year-old, who finished third in Desert Orchid's King George, faces some of France's smartest hurdlers in the 11-runner Prix Humault and he has to give weight away to all but one.

His trainer Francois Doumen, who sent out the last French challenger for the Gold Cup — Nupsala who finished fourth in the 1988 running — said yesterday that he will be happy so long as The Fellow finishes in the first four.

The Fellow's regular jockey, Adam Kondrat, partners him tomorrow and keeps the ride at Cheltenham.

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GREYHOUND COMMENTARIES	+ 122		

Atkins should bear greater ministerial burden

COMMENT

JOHN GOODBODY

Britain could be staging both the Olympic Games and the World Cup in the next ten years. The emphasis is on the word "could" because the obstacles are so great that I wonder whether this country has the coherent will to hold again the two most important events in the international sporting calendar.

Both London and Manchester are now hoping to hold the 2000 Games, while the Football Association wants to host the 1998 World Cup. Both these laudatory ambitions face similar problems: the need to build modern stadiums with the appropriate infrastructure of road and rail transport.

One of the main reasons for staging either of the events is to furnish the facilities which can be used well into the 21st century. When making its choice on the venue for the Games, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) considers whether the facilities will provide a stimulus to the Olympic sports. One of Manchester's disadvantages, when it bid for the 1996 Games, was the lack of existing stadiums and arenas; for example, there was no main stadium or swimming pool.

Although London at least has Wembley, which is already nearly 70 years old, it will need to build a cluster of new facilities for some of the other sports even if the money for their construction is obtained from the private and public sector. Many boroughs may refuse planning permission. Lobby groups like the Council for the Protection of Rural England, which recently accused the government of bending green belt policy to accommodate sports facilities, are bound to support them.

Even if the environment department were to overrule the local planning authority, the presence of vociferous groups, protesting about the building of Olympic facilities, would be bound to influence the IOC when it votes in 1993 on the location of the 2000 Games. Toronto discovered this to its cost when it tried for the 1996 Games.

There is also the problem of who will subsidise the facilities after the Games, unless the organisers can guarantee making enough money to finance them. Swimming pools, as Denis Howell once said, only make money if the water is kept cold. The Sports Council, the government-funded quango, and local authorities would be prepared to undertake such a task only if extra funds were available from the taxpayer. Is the Government prepared to do this?

Many of the same problems face the FA in its wish to stage the 1998 World Cup, when it will need at least eight stadiums with between 30,000 and 40,000 seats, plus two arenas, which can hold 60,000 to 80,000 people, to bring the tournament to Britain. At the moment, there is only Wembley and possibly Twickenham, which the Rugby Football Union has commendably developed from its own resources.

Last year, the Government cut the tax on football pools, so releasing about £100 million over the next five years to help implement the recommendations of Lord Justice Taylor on all-seat stadiums.

However, much of this money is being used by the Football Trust, which is responsible for the distribution of money, to refurbish antique stadiums. These are often built on sites in densely-populated areas, where there is often little room for their development as centres for the local community and other sports.

When clubs have tried to move, like Oxford United, Southampton and Luton Town, they have faced bitter opposition from the local residents, living near their proposed location, and frequently also from the local authority and from their own supporters. This week, Nigel Bachmann, the environmental policy officer for Southampton City, explained to representatives of other local authorities the tremendous problems confronting the first division football club in its attempt to move from its cramped facilities at The Dell. Ground-sharing, so commonplace on the Continent and advocated by Lord Taylor, is regarded by supporters as a betrayal of their heritage.

The result is chaos, with good government money being thrown after bad with the propping up of stadiums often used solely for matches (barely 80 hours a year in many cases). This lack of use means that it is no surprise that in the last financial survey of Football League clubs it was found that fewer than ten of the 94 were actually trading legally.

It is no wonder that Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, has said that, although clubs are spending millions of pounds in improving stadiums, "they are doing a good job, but it is all on a piecemeal *ad hoc* basis. There is no national overview."

The classic case is that of Sheffield. When the city council underwrote the facilities for the World Student Games, a new stadium was planned for the athletics. You would have thought that this was the ideal moment for Sheffield United to have moved from its valuable Bramall Lane site, barely a mile from the city centre, to the Lower Don Valley. You might have also thought that Sheffield Wednesday might have considered moving from Hillsborough as one of the many causes for the 1989 disaster was the cramped entrances at the Leppings Lane end. You would be wrong.

Although Bramall Lane could have been sold for redevelopment — Sheffield city council is itself the planning authority — and the club could have combined with the city council to build the best stadium in the north of England, the result is that there are now three stadiums at Sheffield: the Lower Don Valley for athletics and rugby league (a capacity of 25,000 and all-seat), Bramall Lane (31,750) and Hillsborough (35,000). Instead, there could have been one facility of 40,000-plus seats, housing both football clubs with an athletics track, used not just for international meetings, but for daily use by the local community.

In no other country in the world could this have happened. Go to Italy or Germany or the Soviet Union and there is a rationality about facilities. Oh, by the way, Sheffield United's last balance sheet shows a debt of £3.163 million and it is asking the Football Trust for £2 million of tax-payers' money for a new stand.

The problem may seem insuperable because it needs a change of attitude of everyone from football supporters and local residents, to clubs to local authorities and the government. However, some of it might be overcome by a more significant role for the minister for sport.

He should have complete control over the allocation of money from central government for sport, not just the £46 million annually to the Sports Council but also the money being distributed by the Football Trust. He could then ensure that taxpayers' money is spent for the benefit of sport as a whole to help provide the necessary facilities; not just for important events like the Olympic Games and World Cup, but for the local community.

As Robert Atkins carries out his review of sport to be published in the summer, he should recognise that he should himself take on greater ministerial responsibility. It is not Atkins's fault that he has inherited this lack of responsibility, but it will be his fault if he does not recommend that it should change.

RUGBY UNION

Only Thorburn's boot can convert fears into hope

From GERALD DAVIES
IN PARIS

TODAY'S TEAMS IN PARIS

France			Wales	
S Blanco* (Biarritz)	15	Full back	P H Thorburn* (Neath)	15
J-B Lafond (Racing Club)	14	Right wing	I C Evans (Llanelli)	14
P Sella (Agen)	13	Right centre	M G Ring (Cardiff)	13
F Mesnel (Racing Club)	12	Left centre	I S Gibbs (Neath)	12
P Saint-André (Montferrand)	11	Left wing	A Emyr (Swansea)	11
D Camberabero (Béziers)	10	Stand off	N R Jenkins (Pontypridd)	10
P Berbizier (Agen)	9	Scrum half	C J Bridges (Neath)	9
G Lascubé (Agen)	1	Prop	M Griffiths (Cardiff)	1
P Marocco (Montferrand)	2	Hooker	K H Phillips (Neath)	2
P Ondarts (Biarritz)	3	Prop	J D Davies (Neath)	3
X Blond (Racing Club)	6	Flanker	E W Lewis (Llanelli)	6
J-F Gourragne (Béziers)	4	Lock	G D Llewellyn (Neath)	4
O Roumat (Dax)	5	Lock	P Arnold (Swansea)	5
L Cabannes (Racing Club)	7	Flanker	M S Morris (Neath)	7
C Deslandes (Racing Club)	8	No 8	P T Davies (Llanelli)	8

*Captain *Captain

Referee: K V J Fitzgerald (Australia)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 E Bonneval (Toulouse), 17 T Lacroix (Dax), 18 H Sanz (Narbonne), 19 M Cecillon (Bourgoin), 20 M Tachdjian (Racing Club), 21 P Gimbert (Bègles-Bordeaux)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 A Clement (Swansea), 17 D W Evans (Cardiff), 18 R N Jones (Swansea), 19 K Waters (Newbridge), 20 B R Williams (Neath), 21 A J Carter (Newport)

PARC DES PRINCES DETAILS

- France and Wales have met on 63 occasions since 1908, of which Wales have won 36 and France 24. Wales have not won since 1982 in Cardiff and not in Paris since 1975.
- The 1975 game is one of only two wins by Wales at the Parc des Princes. France's eight-match run of victories since 1982 is the longest period of unbroken success any country has had against Wales.
- Of the present Welsh team, only Paul Thorburn (three times), Ieuan Evans and Phil Davies (twice), Mike Griffiths, Kevin Phillips and Martin Morris (once) have played at the Parc des Princes.
- France's highest score against Wales is the 31-12 victory in 1989, which is also their biggest winning margin. Wales go back to 1910 for their best score, 49-14, though their biggest margin was the 47-5 victory of 1909, when they scored 11 tries.

SERGE Blanco, the moving spirit of the French XV, makes his 84th appearance, and Philippe Sella, the brilliant Agen centre, returns in place of Charvet, for his 71st in today's five nations' championship match against Wales at Parc des Princes here.

Both players find themselves settled in the luxury of a back division which boasts 289 international caps between them (327 had not Lagisquet been forced to drop out for Saint-André to win his sixth cap). They know each other and their circumstances pretty well by now. They have travelled many a mile together; they have often times proved their pedigree. This is hardly the case for Wales, who have some 200 caps fewer and a cupboard bare of good results.

An optimist in the opposing camp, faced with such statistics and trying to make some capital to boost his team's morale, might suggest that the French are, in fact, a mite long in the tooth and a little weary, by now, in the leg. But there are few in Wales who care to view the matter in quite this cheery light. There is, instead, a noticeable trembling at the prospect. And for good reason.

Seventy-eight points have already been scored against Wales in the championship thus far, and another unwanted statistic hovers, waiting to bear down on them by dusk today. Such is the perceived difference between the teams that it looks that Wales could well concede 100 points for the first time in the four matches.

Almost half the team, admittedly, is making a return trip to Paris, but the players have not all been there at the same time. The four who played two years ago suffered a record 31-12 defeat. Not one of the survivors has known what it is to beat the French, either in Cardiff or Paris, whose eight successive victories stretch back to 1982. This, too, is a record. The longest run without success for Wales was against England between 1923 and 1931, when Wales failed to register a victory in nine fixtures. But there were two drawn matches during that time.

In their last six games against France, Wales have scored only two tries to 18 by the opposition. In the last three outings in Paris, all 24 points for Wales have come from Paul Thorburn's boot. The Welsh full back needs only two points to top the 300 mark for his country and so join an exclusive band — Lynagh, Porter, Fox and Michael Kiernan — who have done so. Where else, though, are the points going to come from? There is enough to fear in all this. But there may be more.

There are hints, no more than that as yet, that the tide of French rugby affairs is on the turn. There are those who, ignoring Fouroux's tangible rewards (three of France's grand slams were under his command), have harked back to the days when France may not have won any grand glams — the first was in 1968 — but found widespread applause for the easy, instinctive flourish of their game. They were prone to error, but their style, at its best, was unpredictable and, because of it, irresistible.

Can the warmth of their traditional panache harmonise with the ice needed for consistent success? There is no reason why it should not. But we shall have to wait and see. For while they scored two tries against Ireland, they bagged none against Scotland. They have little regard for Wales, having dispatched their coaches to watch England the other day rather than Wales, their more immediate opposition.

France have made three changes. As well as the change in midfield, Gourragne replaces Tachdjian at lock and Deslandes comes in for Cecillion at No. 8 to make it an all Racing Club back row.

Irish forwards take command

From DAVIDS HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT
DUBLIN

Ireland B **24**
England B **10**

WARNING lights do not usually flash green, but if England's seniors, who were watching this B international at Donnybrook yesterday, do not take heed of the method of Ireland's victory, they will rue it today.

Although England led 10-7 at the interval they never established a foothold in the match at any stage against an Irish team whose spirit was best illustrated by the ebullient, combative Popplewell.

Beaten at the lineout, England's only consolation was that the scrum held firm, but because Ireland dominated the loose ball, they also enjoyed more of the put-in. Victory, taken into conjunction with Ireland's win in the under-21 international last October, offers the Irish selectors even more cause for optimism from the rising generation.

Although they started well, England were soon hustled out of their stride and it was against the run of play that they scored on their first visit to the Irish 22. Pears, Back and Hunter made the running for the five-metre scrum from which Rodber drove over, and though Kiernan, who was eventually supersededby Wilkinson after an indifferent afternoon with the boot, kicked a penalty goal, Thompson created a long-distance try for Hunter.

However, Johns, from close range, kept Ireland in contact, and in the second half the Irish pack took charge. Clarke gathered Wallace's kick at the corner to earn the lead for the first time, and Wallace's punishing pace from 60 metres produced a try after England, as they did far too frequently, lost possession in the tackle.

When Popplewell wrestled his way over from a tapped penalty it was clear this was not England's day. That feeling was confirmed when Rodber and Back gave Buckton and Liley space to combine, Buckton crossing the line only to be recalled for foul play spotted by Brian Stirling, the touch judge, 70 metres away. Dawe was the offender and to make it worse Wilkinson kicked the penalty goal to underscore England's first defeat at this level this season.

SCORERS: Ireland B: Tries: Johns, Clarke, Wallace, Popplewell. Conversion: Wilkinson. Penalty goals: Kiernan, Wilkinson. England B: Tries: Rodber, Hunter. Conversion: Liley.

IRELAND B: C Wilkinson (Malone); R Wallace (Garryowen), J Clarke (Dolphin), M Kiernan (Dolphin), J Sexton (Landsowne); N Barry (Garryowen), M Bradley (Constitution, captain); N Popplewell (Greystones), J O'Riordan (Constitution), P McCarthy (Constitution), P O'Hara (Sunday's Well), M Galwey (Shannon), P Johns (Dublin University), M Fitzgibbon (Shannon), P Lawlor (Bective Rangers).

ENGLAND B: J Liley (Leicester); I Hunter (Northampton), J Buckton (Saracens), G Thompson (Harlequins), T Underwood (Leicester); D Pears (Harlequins), R Moon (Llanelli); G Holmes (Wasps), G Dawe (Bath), G Pearce (Northampton, captain; rep. T Revan, Rugby), D Ryan (Wasps), N Redman (Bath), S Dear (Rosslyn Park), N Back (Leicester), T Rodber (Northampton).

Referee: K McCartney (Scotland).

- To complete a good day for the Irish, they beat England 17-16 in the universities international at College Park.

Kirk recognises All Black style

By DAVID HANDS

IMMEDIATELY after New Zealand won the inaugural World Cup in 1987, David Kirk, the All Blacks captain, was asked at a press conference whether his team's 29-9 victory over France had not been a trifle boring. Kirk's response was devastating: "You fellows make me laugh," he said. "That was a test match. You play to win."

It says a lot about the New Zealand psyche and it is apt to recall it now because England, looking at the prospect of a triple crown when they play Ireland at Lansdowne Road today in the five nations' championship, have been accused of exactly the same. Victory over Wales in Cardiff and Scotland at Twickenham has not been enough; because of such memorable rugby against France and Wales last season.

What seems less well appreciated is the difficulty in producing such performances on a consistent basis. It is also worth observing, in this era particularly, that winning has the effect of drawing support for the game.

England's approach this season has been similar to the All Blacks, in the intensity of their preparation and performance. Kirk, the former scrum half now working in London for a management consultancy company, recognises it. "That performance against Scotland was the most like a New Zealand side I have seen," he said. "Rob Andrew kicked a lot — just like Grant Fox has done for us over the last few years. We have used a lot of short lineouts. Forwards running with the ball, forwards outside the stand-off half, never moving it wide until they needed to. But the test will come when they have won a few really big games. It takes a very good side, confident of its ability, to know it's good enough to win and choose to take a few risks in achieving victory."

Kirk said that England have not needed to "examine themselves" yet. "But they are playing effective rugby and they seem to have grafted something extra to the national character." In that respect, England are much like the 1980 grand slam side, with experience and an awareness that time was running out for many of them.

"This England team can expand," Kirk said. "It has a good midfield and Rob Andrew is a good enough passer when he chooses. There is plenty of pace outside. My question before the season started was the timing of Simon Hodgkinson's running, but he proved he could do that well against Scotland."

But Kirk also warned of the trap which the possession of a good goalkicker can create. "You know that if you apply the pressure long enough you will end up with three points and it can take a real effort to switch," he said.

Kirk said England are in a good position now, "but they have to expand their game against Ireland and they should try to again against France. They have proved they can beat teams by playing methodically, but they probably need to win all four to prove what they can do to themselves".

Heseltine's visit fails to raise funds or spirits

Mirror image: with his picture up on the big screen, Heseltine meets Games' planners in Don Valley Stadium

Sheffield's hopes are dashed

By PETER DAVENPORT

MICHAEL Heseltine, the environment secretary, yesterday visited the £52 million Ponds Forge international swimming and diving complex in Sheffield and dashed the hopes of the city council that he was about to bail out the financially troubled World Student Games.

A report presented yesterday by Ray Gridley, the director of administration for the event, projected the cost of staging the Games as planned in July at £23.5 million. Estimated income, however, is put at only £16 million, around half of which remains pledged rather than in the bank, leaving a potential deficit of at least £7.5 million.

In January, a delegation from the city council met Heseltine to plead for extra government money and discussions have continued since. Yesterday, the environment secretary saw for himself the £147 million sports facilities that have been created in Sheffield.

He insisted that the government would not make any direct contribution towards the staging of the Games themselves, stressing that the government already had put in some £26 million of urban grant on schemes linked to the wider regeneration of Sheffield and £3 million through the Sports Council.

However, he went on to present the council with an opportunity to reduce the likely deficit on the Games, expected to attract 6,000 athletes from 120 countries. Heseltine said that the government was prepared to provide an extra £1.34 million as a carrot to encourage greater private sector sponsorship, which has so far been disappointing.

Payment depends on the city being successful in attracting new sponsorship. Although Heseltine did not say how much the council would have to secure before benefitting, the amount must clearly be substantial.

The other catch behind the offer lies in its timing; it will only be available to the end of the financial year with no rollover provision. In effect, the council have until the end of this month.

Heseltine also announced yesterday that an extra £840,000 was being provided for landscaping projects around the games' venues, relieving the council of those costs. He also said that the government would continue to contribute £4.5 million to the building of a sports arena despite the decision of the private sector to scale back their original, matching support.

Clive Betts, the council leader, was disappointed that more money could not have been extracted from the government, although the authority remains committed to staging the event. "We would have liked more than the £2 million, but if we had been given £5 million then we would still have liked more."

Heseltine made it clear that the decision to stage the Games had been Sheffield's and the success or failure of the event was down to the city council. There will be no more new government money and any deficit will have to be picked up by the city and its poll tax

EQUESTRIANISM

Mason retires on sad note

From JENNY MACARTHUR IN HERTOGENBOSCH, THE NETHERLANDS

DIANA Mason, a regular member of the British dressage team since 1976, ended her distinguished career on a disappointing note here yesterday when she and Prince Consort failed to earn a place in the Volvo dressage World Cup qualifier today.

Mason, who had hoped to make her swansong at the World Cup final in Paris in a fortnight's time, finished thirteenth in the grand prix, from which the top 12 went forward.

"I was disappointed with my mark," Mason, aged 57, said. "Prince Consort did everything he was asked — it's just one of those things."

Mason, who started her competitive career in three-day eventing, winning team gold medals at the 1954 and 1955 European championships, now exchanges her role of competitor for that of chairman of the dressage selection committee. Prince Consort, who is 15 years old, is to be retired to a life of "leisure and cossetting" on her Warwickshire farm.

The two other British riders competing yesterday — Anni MacDonald-Hall, on Optimist, and Jennie Loriston-Clarke, on Dutch Gold — finished eighth and ninth respectively. Loriston-Clarke, lying fourth in the European League from which the top eight qualify, is virtually assured of her place in the final.

MacDonald-Hall, who leapt into contention after her excellent win on Optimist in the Neumünster World Cup qualifier ten days ago, is lying joint eighth, and needs to finish in the top six today to guarantee her place in Paris.

The joint winners of the grand prix — by a comfortable 51-point margin — were Sven Rothenberger, of Germany, on Andiamo, the holder of the World Cup, and Nina Menkova, of the Soviet Union, on Dikson.

Earlier, in the Rabobank Prize, John Whitaker gave Henderson Milton a reassuring warm-up for the show jumping World Cup qualifier tomorrow. Whitaker, who was giving Milton his first international competition for three-and-a-half months, completed a steady, clear round to finish in joint eleventh place.

RESULTS: Dressage grand prix: equal 1, Andiamo (S Rothenberger, Ger) and Dikson (N Menkova, USSR), 1,410pts; 3, Fabienne (I Werth, Ger), 1,359; 4, Supermax Ravel (A Grethe-Toernblad, Den), 1,351; 5, Kemm Entertainer (M Klimke, Ger), 1,316. Rabobank Prize: 1, Optiebeurs Wummi (O Becker, Ger), 0 in 22.84sec; 2, Optiebeurs Darco (L Philippaerts, Bel), 0 in 22.97; 3, Annaconda (B Romp, Neth), 0 in 23.11.

SNOOKER

Hendry punishes lapse by Davis

By STEVE ACTESON

STEPHEN Hendry, who compiled two important breaks to recover from 15-14 down and defeat Steve Davis in an electrifying United Kingdom championship final in December, yesterday gave the former world champion another unpleasant surprise to take a 5-3 lead in their Pearl Assurance British Open semi-final in Derby.

Davis appeared set to level at 4-4 at the end of the first session of their best-of-17-frame match when he compiled a break of 71 to lead 71-10. Hendry, however, punishes errors as severely as did Davis in his supremacy and when Davis left him a difficult long red, Hendry cracked it home to begin a spectacular clearance of 65.

Earlier, Davis had led by a frame twice, but Hendry also hurt him in the fifth frame when he came back from 52-0 in arrears by snookering Davis on the final red and clearing to pink for a 3-2 lead.

Breaks of 59, 34, 32 and 35 then gave Hendry a two-frame lead and a 67-43 advantage in the seventh, but when Hendry then missed the frame-ball yellow, Davis turned the tables with a colours' clearance.

Gary Wilkinson took a 5-3 lead over Jimmy White in an absorbing encounter. Breaks of 65 and 64 gave Wilkinson a 3-1 advantage and then he managed two snookers on the final red in the fifth frame and cleared with 37 to lead by three frames.

Wilkison's total clearance of 139, to equal his tournament-best effort in the pre-televised stages, re-established that margin of three, but White finally woke up with a run of 101 in the last frame.

RESULTS: Semi-final: S Hendry (Scot) leads S Davis (Eng), 5-3. Frame scores (Hendry first): 20-89, 102-23, 0-76, 79-8, 62-53, 98-11, 67-70, 75-71. G Wilkinson (Eng) leads J White (Eng), 5-3. Frame scores (Wilkinson first): 70-50, 18-82, 91-0, 88-0, 70-66, 59-64, 139-0, 21-101. Thursday's late quarter-finals: Hendry bt D Taylor (N Ire), 5-1; White bt A Robidoux (Can), 5-3.

BASKETBALL

Kingston stand defiant

By NICHOLAS HARLING

THE latest performance by Kingston in the European Champions Cup is bad news for the clubs standing in their way in the Coca-Cola Cup semi-finals and finals at the London Arena this weekend. If Kingston are capable of defeating opponents as illustrious as Maccabi Tel Aviv, then what chance the likes of Sunderland and Thames Valley Tigers, their semi-final opponents and likely opposition, tonight and tomorrow respectively?

It is not as if Kingston are already sated by their success. The capture of all five domestic trophies last year may well be followed by four more this season, never mind the possibility of a place in the European Cup's final four in Paris next month.

However eager Sunderland are to atone for the latest of their defeats this season by Kingston, which was by 34 points on their home court little over a week ago, they might not have the resources. "The last thing we want is a repeat of last Thursday," Dave Elderkin, their coach, said.

Elderkin might find it of little comfort to discover that for all the poor shooting of Kingston players, such as Martin Clark, against Sunderland and Maccabi, Kevin Cadle, the Kingston coach, still feels his side profits from the presence of their England international. "Martin is such a good player in defence that we are a better team when he is on the floor even if he is not scoring."

Whichever, of Thames Valley and Leicester wins tonight's other Coca-Cola Cup semi-final, is also likely to find the task too tough tomorrow.

Continental reverence might satisfy the Arsenal manager's ambitious search

Gospel according to Graham

By Clive White

IT IS no secret that George Graham would dearly love to go down in Arsenal history as one of its greatest managers, which to some extent he already is. Should he repeat the feat he achieved as an Arsenal player by winning the League and FA Cup double, he might even end up with a bust of himself to keep that of Herbert Chapman company in Highbury's marble hall.

Graham is a self-confessed Arsenalo-phile; his study at home is littered with Gunners' memorabilia. What will have hurt him almost as much as Arsenal's two losses this season will be the defeat he suffered in Christie's auction rooms in Glasgow a while ago when he failed in a bid for Alex James's 1930 FA Cup winners' medal.

Yet there is something even more important to him than the club and that is European fame, according to David O'Leary, who is every bit as committed to Arsenal as Graham. "I think, deep down, an even bigger ambition for George than doing the double would be to win the European Cup and really have his name spread around Europe," he said.

Of course, before Graham can do that he must win the League and before he can win the League he will probably have to steer Arsenal clear of defeat against Liverpool at Anfield in a game tomorrow which dwarfs all others.

O'Leary, who last week signed a contract which will enable him to complete 20 years' service with the club, does not pretend to know Graham's mind. "I don't know him any better than I did five years ago when he came to the club as manager. In fact, I don't know him at all and, in the nicest way, I don't want to know him either."

But O'Leary is in little
ubt that Graham can
gress even further as a
nager. A one-club man of
ost unique proportions,
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er many managers — Terry
, Don Howe, Eoin Hand
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best tactician of the lot.
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e south, that Arsenal have only to turn up at Anfield tomorrow and walk all over a dispirited Liverpool to claim their second title in three years.

One simple victory was O'Leary's antidote for the alleged Liverpool malaise and as for talk of a decline he pointed out that Liverpool were joint top of the first division with Arsenal. "Some decline if they're still top of the flaming League!"

It was probably just as well for Arsenal that O'Leary and his colleagues did not see Liverpool's spineless performance at Luton last week, otherwise there might have been danger of complacency creeping into the London team's game.

Liverpool, however, remain unbeaten at home and so it was with some justification that Ronnie Moran, still in the role of caretaker manager, remarked yesterday that Arsenal "will probably be as frightened of coming here as is everybody else".

Moran repeated his explanation for Liverpool's second consecutive defeat when losing to Everton in midweek by laying the blame upon the stubborn goalkeeping of Neville Southall. Liverpool may find David Seaman no more accommodating.

Few teams could have protected a single-goal advantage with greater security than Arsenal did in their FA Cup fifth round tie at Shrewsbury on Wednesday. Arsenal teams have always been renowned for their defensive qualities but the present one is even putting the defensive record of the great double team of 1970-71 to shame.

In the first 26 games of that season Arsenal conceded 21 goals which was among the best in the division. This season's minders have let a miserly 12 goals past them as they go into their 26th game. The return of Tony Adams, the captain, after his spell in prison will only increase Arsenal's fortitude.

The chief difference, as far as O'Leary is concerned, between this Arsenal side and the one which last won the championship two seasons ago, is the attack. O'Leary paid tribute to the contribution in that area of Anders Limpar for providing "something a bit special" to break the deadlock in certain games.

The little Swede, whom Graham tracked for two or three seasons before luring him to Highbury, is poised to return after missing three games with an ankle injury and to set his manager firmly upon that European trail.

A family affair: Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, has not had to look far as he strives to combat a daunting injury crisis. With six regular first-team players unavailable for today's League match against Everton, and with a Cup Winners' Cup match looming on Wednesday, Ferguson has called up his son, Darren, above, to start a senior match for the first time. The young Ferguson, aged 18, who appeared as a substitute in the 2-1 midweek defeat at Sheffield United, has a big job ahead with Robson and Hughes among the players out of action

WEEKEND TEAM NEWS

Coventry v Crystal Palace

Gallacher and Woods, who has yet to play since his transfer from Wigan six weeks ago, came through unscathed in a reserve game in midweek following injury and are included in the Coventry squad. Palace's only concern is Thom, who has missed three games with an ankle injury.

Derby v Sunderland

Derby, hoping for their first win since succeeding at Roker Park on December 1, expect to be unchanged. Anthony Smith, a teenage defender, has been dropped by Sunderland, who bring back Hardyman after suspension.

Luton v Nottm Forest

James is ordered to rest after being concussed in midweek but Harvey is fit to return in his place. McDonough is also available. Black has a test on a groin injury. Jemson starts his first game since Boxing Day for Forest, who promote Woan and Charles in place of Crosby and Laws.

Manchester U v Everton

Darren Ferguson, the son of the Manchester United manager, will make his full debut for United because of injuries which have ruled out six first-choice players: Hughes, Robson, Webb, Bruce, Robins and Phelan. Giggs, aged 17, is substitute. Everton will be unchanged.

QPR v Manchester City

Reid, out for six games after a knee operation, is poised to return against one of his former clubs.

Sheffield U v Aston Villa

Villa run a check on injuries to Platt (groin), Daley (hamstring) and Nielsen (back). Gray is likely to return. Agana returns to the United squad for the first time since November.

Southampton v Leeds

Strachan, who has an abdominal injury, could miss his first game for Leeds since joining the club two seasons ago; Williams would deputise. With Haddock and Snodin injured, Whitlow is the third choice at left back. Case returns after suspension for Southampton as may Shearer after food poisoning.

Tottenham v Chelsea

Gascoigne, Stewart and Van den Hauwe return for Tottenham but there is still a delay for Samways and Walsh. Chelsea are unchanged. Le Saux, suffering from sciatica, broke down in a reserve match on Thursday.

Wimbledon v Norwich

Butterworth, whose second transfer request was recently rejected by Norwich, misses his fourth consecutive match with an ankle injury. Woodthorpe, signed last summer from Chester but since confined to the reserves, stands by to deputise for Crook, who is injured. Wimbledon expect Scales, McGee, Phelan and Segers to recover from injury.

Tomorrow

Liverpool v Arsenal

Gillespie, out for six weeks with a calf injury, is added to the Liverpool team on duty in midweek along with Burrows, Rosenthal and Speedie. Limpar is likely to return for Arsenal as might Davis in place of Hillier.

eds plan new stand

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hopes to increase the
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nore than 40,000.

ough, the manager of
n Forest, has denied
deliberately field an
gth team against Lu-
t Kenilworth Road today. With Hodge already ruled out through injury, Clough has dropped both Crosby and Laws. Asked if they were being rested for Forest's FA Cup replay with Southampton on Monday, Clough said: "I have never done that in my life and I won't start now."

● Annie Bassett, the first and only woman chief executive in the League, yesterday resigned from Birmingham City after only eight months at St Andrew's. Samesh Kumar, the club chairman, takes over.

BRIEF

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r the 1992 season.

NIS: Oxford took
University match
n, defeating Cam-
doubles matches.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

SEVILLE, Spain: Indoor meeting: Men: 60m: 1, L Christie (GB), 6.55sec; 2, C Imoh (Nigeria), 6.57; 3, A Simon (Cuba), 6.57. 200m: 1, J Regis (GB), 20.86; 2, Christie, 20.89; 3, S Floris (It), 21.15. 400m: 1, M Johnson (US), 45.48; 2, D Harris (US), 46.68; 3, T Schönlebe (Ger), 46.77. 800m: 1, W Tanui (Ken), 1min 47.86sec; 2, T De Teresa (Sp), 1:47.84; 3, J Arconada (Sp), 1:47.95. 1,500m: 1, N Morceli (Alg), 3:34.16 (world record); 2, F Cacho (Sp), 3:35.29; 3, M Silva, (Por), 3:36.46. 3,000m: 1, M Rowland (GB), 8:02.70; 2, A Jimenez (Sp), 8:02.90; 3, P Thiebaut (Fr), 8:03.10. High jump: 1, J Sotomayor (Cuba), 2.31m; 2, T Forsythe (Aus), 2.28; 3, M Drake (Cuba), 2.24. Pole vault: 1, G Yegorov (USSR), 5.71m; 2, R Gataullin (USSR), 5.61; 3, J G Chico (Sp), 5.51. Women: 60m: 1, M Ottey (Jam), 7.06sec; 2, I Sergeyeva (USSR), 7.10; 3, L Allen (Cuba), 7.16. 200m: 1, Ottey, 22.37; 2, D Dixon (US), 22.99; 3, S Myers (Sp), 23.14. 400m: 1, J Merino (Sp), 52.38; 2, E Lahoz (Sp), 54.19; 3, I Rodriguez (Sp), 54.87. 800m: 1, S Wodars (Ger), 2min 01.71sec; 2, Y Mai (Ger), 2:03.51; 3, A Protti (Switz), 2:03.61. 60m hurdles: 1, A Lopez (Cuba), 8.02sec; 2, K McKenzie (US), 8.07; 3, K Patzwahl (Ger), 8.08. High jump: 1, S Costa (Cuba), 1.94m; 2, G Karpenik (Austria), 1.88; 3, T Murray (NZ), 1.85. Long jump: 1, C Lewis (US), 6.21m; 2, N Montalvo (Cuba), 6.20; 3, J Moffitt (NZ), 6.20. 3km walk: 1, K Saxby (Aus), 12min 51.75sec; 2, E Cano (Sp), 12:56.17; 3, O Sanchez (Sp), 12:58.94.

BADMINTON

WIMBLEDON: Pewa Surrey Open: Men: Singles: Third round (GB unless stated): P Knowles bt P Bush, 15-5, 15-2; V Kumar (Ind) bt K Erichsen (Guatemala), 15-1, 15-3; G Stewart (NZ) bt Andrews, 15-1, 15-4; R Nock bt S Yates, 15-9, 15-12. Women: Quarter-finals: A Gibson bt J Still (NZ), 11-9, 11-0; S Hore bt T Dineen, 11-5, 11-3; S Louis bt D Smith, 11-2, 11-3; F Gallup bt S Jefferson (NZ), 11-6, 11-1.

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS' CUP: Quarter-final series: Men: Barcelona 82, Pop '84 Split (Yug) 85; Kingston 84, Maccabi Tel Aviv 82; Aris Salonika 138, Bayer Leverkusen (Ger) 117; Limoges (Fr) 110, Scavolini Pesaro (It) 82. Women: Sporting (Gr) 67, Asteric Mirande (Fr) 80; Saigar Zaragoza (Sp) 88, Elektrosila Leningrad 98; Cesena (It) 81, Arvika (Sweden) 71.

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: First division: Derby City Rams 99, London Docklands 92.

BOXING

SUNDERLAND: Professional tournament: International bantamweight (10 rnds): Billy Hardy (Sunderland) bt Francisco Ortiz (Mex), rsc 7th rnd. Feather (6 rnds): Tony Falcone (Chippenham) bt Paul Wynn (Newcastle), pts. Light (6 rnds): John Naylor (Liverpool) bt Chris Bennett (Newcastle), rsc 3rd rnd; Marvin P Gray (Stanley) bt Rick Bushell (Herne Bay), pts. Welter (6 rnds): Paul King (Gateshead) ko Dave Kettlewell (Leeds), 1st rnd. Middle (6 rnds): John Stocks (Liverpool) bt Kenny Tyson (Leeds), pts.

CRESTA RUN

LIGHTNING CUP: 1, P Berchtold (Switz), 2min 15.64sec; 2, C Teodorpf (Ger), 2:16.61; 3, J Sunley (GB), 2:16.43.

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Midlands Club Conference 305-4 (J Foster 130, R Swann 69 not out, M Davies 60), I Zingari (Australia) 118. Midlands Club Conference won by 187 runs.

FOOTBALL

LEYLAND DAF CUP: Southern area: Quarter-final: Hereford 0, Brentford 2.

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Millwall 1, Wimbledon 1; Watford 2, Chelsea 5; West Ham 1, Brighton 0.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Huddersfield 0, Liverpool 0.

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Loctite Cup: Quarter-final: Carshalton 13, Worthing 0. Loctite Trophy: Third round replays: Maiden Vale 0, Hungerford 3; Newbury 3, Flackwell Heath 0.

LONDON CHALLENGE CUP: First round: Southall 2, Welling 3.

WENDY FAIR CAPITAL LEAGUE: Wokingham 0, Southend 2.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS ADIDAS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: Nottinghamshire 2, Northants 2; West Midlands 0, Cheshire 1. English Schools North West Under-19 Cup: Liverpool 3, Wirral 0; Thameside 2, Stockport 4.

HANG GLIDING

GOVERNADOR VALADARES, Brazil: World championships: First day (60km): 1, T Suchanek (Cz), 1,000pts; 2, M Ruhmer (Austria), 997; 3, P Lopes (Br), 985; 4, T Bender (Aus), 984; 5, P Coelho (Br), 980. British: 17, P Harvey 726; 19, J Pendry 724; 25, B Goldsmith 718; 41, R Hamilton 679; 49, J Flynn 673; 81, R Whittall. Team: 1, Brazil; 2, Australia; 3, United States. 7, Britain.

TENNIS

CHICAGO: Men's tournament: Second round: G Connell (Can) bt L Mattar (Br), 6-1, 6-7, 6-3; P McEnroe (US) bt N Pereira (Ven), 6-4, 7-6.

COVENTRY: Serve and Volley men's satellite tournament: Singles: quarter-finals: L Bale (SA) bt J Lenton (GB), 6-3, 6-2; N Bruno (It) bt P Virtanen (Fin), 6-2, 7-5; B Joelson (US) bt G Schaap (Neth), 7-6, 6-1; J Turner (GB) bt C Wilkinson (GB), 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.

ROTTERDAM: Men's indoor tournament: Second round: P Haarhuis (Neth) bt M Gustafsson (Swe), 6-3, 3-6, 6-1; I Lendl (Cz) bt N Kulti (Swe), 6-4, 6-0. Quarter-finals: O Camporese (It) bt K Novacek (Cz), 6-4, 7-5; A Jarryd (Swe) bt J Siemerink (Neth), 7-6, 6-2.

NORWICH: LTA Women's satellite tournament: Final: D Wamelink (Neth) bt S Bentley (GB), 6-3, 6-3.

GOLF

MIAMI: Open tournament: First-round leaders (all US): 66: K Clearwater, J Hallet, R Mediate, C Beck. 67: W Levi, M O'Meara, D Forsman, W R Brown, T Purtzer, W Glasson, G Carull. 68: M Calcavecchia, A Bean, B Crenshaw, G Morgan, M McCumber, S Simpson, T Simpson, D Tewell, J Maggert, M Lye, R Wolcott, T Eubank, G Buckner, S Hoch, J D Blake, T Sieckmann.

SQUASH RACKETS

MADRID: Spanish championships: Men: Second round: T Nancarrow (Aus) bt J Hickox (Eng), 15-8, 15-10, 15-8; C Robertson (Aus) bt Norman, 15-11, 15-7, 15-12; B Martin (Aus) bt C Walker (Eng), 15-10, 15-7, 15-12; Jahangir Khan (Pak) bt D Harris (Eng), 13-15, 17-14, 15-11, 15-8. Quarter-finals: Jansher Khan (Pak) bt M Gul (Pak), 15-9, 15-8, 15-8; C Dittmar (Aus) bt R Martin (Aus), 15-11, 15-7, 17-14.

ISPA RANKINGS: 1, Jansher Khan (Pak); 2, C Robertson (Aus); 3, C Dittmar (Aus); 4, Jahangir Khan (Pak); 5, R Martin (Aus); 6, B Martin (Aus); 7, T Nancarrow (Aus); 8, Mir Zaman Gul (Pak); 9, M Maclean (Scot); 10, S Elopuro (Fin). Other British placings: 12, D Harris (Eng); 13, A Davies (Wales); 14, B Beeson (Eng); 17, C Walker (Eng); 21, P Kenyon (Eng); 23, P Marshall (Eng).

LACROSSE

HIGH WYCOMBE: National schoolgirls tournament: Parker Salver (seniors): Semi-finals: Down House (Newbury) 3, St Albans 1; Wycombe Abbey 5, Oakdene (Beaconsfield) 1. Final: Down House 1, Wycombe Abbey 1.

HOCKEY

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Bradfield 2, Wellington, Berkshire 4; St Lawrence, Ramsgate 4, Dover College 1.

NATIONWIDE ANGLIA KENT CUP: Kent College 4, Langley Park 1.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: First division: Leigh 0, Widnes 50.

YACHTING

BOC SINGLEHANDED ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Leading positions (at 11.40 GMT yesterday, with miles to Punta del Este, Uruguay): Class 1: 1, Generali Concorde (A Gautier, Fr), 912 miles; 2, Groupe Sceta (C Auguin, Fr), 1,200 (estimate); 3, Innkeeper (D Adams, Aus), 1,242; 4, Duracell (M Plant, US), 1,295; 5, Crédit Agricole (P Jeantot, Fr), 1,585; 6, Alba Regia (N Fa, Hon), 1,599; 7, Ecureuil PC (I Autissier, Fr), 1,633; 8, Grinaker (B Reed, SA), 1,656; 9, BBV Expo '92 (J Ugarte, Sp), 1,712; 10, Jarkan (K Birtles, Aus), 1,733. Class 2: 1, Servant (Y Dupasquier, Fr), 1,642; 2, Project City Kids (J Boye, US), 2,111; 3, Buttercup (D McIntyre, Aus), 2,153; 4, New Spirit of Ipswich (J Hall, GB), 2,242; 5, Sebago (H Roth, US), 4,104. Corinthian class: 1, Volcano (P Thackaberry, US), 2,406; 2, Global Exposure (R Davie, GB), 2,775; 3, Shutendohji (M Saito, Japan), 2,938.

REAL TENNIS

LEAMINGTON: University match: Oxford lead Cambridge, 2-0. Doubles: First pairs: R Kramaric and J Emery bt D Hodges and G Robin, 6-0, 6-2, 6-1. Second pairs: A Robinson and G Baker bt E Aspinall and A Mellor, 6-2, 6-2, 6-0.

HENRY LEAF OLD BOYS CHAMPIONSHIP: Final: Radley bt Lancing 6-0, 6-4.

SKIING

Tomba calls end to his losing streak

LILLEHAMMER (AP) — Alberto Tomba, of Italy, who often skis well in Scandinavia, captured a men's World Cup giant slalom yesterday and moved to second in the overall standings.

He clocked the fastest second run of the day for a combined time of 2min 18.92sec down the Hafjell course at this Norwegian resort, where the 1994 Olympic Games races for men and women will be held.

Rudolf Nierlich, of Austria, the world giant slalom champion and winner of a slalom in nearby Oppdal on Tuesday, was runner-up in front of his teammate, Stefan Eberharter, the world titleholder at super-giant slalom.

It was Tomba's fifth victory in a World Cup slalom or giant slalom in Norway and Sweden since 1988 and it ended a streak of four World Cup races in which the 1988 double Olympic champion failed to finish.

"It was an important victory, not only for my confidence," Tomba said. "Now I have a good chance to win the giant slalom championship [of the World Cup]."

Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, fourth yesterday, leads the Italian 203 points to 142 in the overall standings.

RESULT: 1, A Tomba (It), 2min 18.92sec; 2, R Nierlich (Austria), 2:19.28; 3, S Eberharter (Austria), 2:19.35; 4, M Girardelli (Lux), 2:20.02; 5, P Holzer (It), 2:20.21; 6, P Accola (Switz), 2:20.37; 7, S Locher (Switz), 2:20.59; 8, U Kaelin (Switz), 2:20.77; 9, O-C Furuseth (Nor), 2:21.30; 10, R Salzgeber (Austria), 2:21.74; 11, K Aamodt (Nor), 2:21.84; 12, M Ericsson (Swe), 2:21.91; 13, A Bittner (Ger), 2:21.95; 14, R Spampatti (It), 2:22.01; 15, H Mayer (Austria), 2:22.02. World Cup standings: Overall: 1, Girardelli 203pts; 2, Tomba 142; 3, F Heinzer (Switz), 129; 4, Nierlich 121; 5, Furuseth 119; 6, G Mader (Austria), 91. Giant slalom: 1, Tomba 102; 2, Girardelli 69; 3, Nierlich 66; 4, Kaelin 59; 5, F Nyberg (Swe), 52; 6, Aamodt 28.

CRICKET

Rampant McDermott soon has West Indies in disarray

From Alan Lee, cricket correspondent, Kingston, Jamaica

CRAIG McDermott, who has the happy knack of taking wickets in all forms of cricket, created an astonishing story-line for the first day of this Test series for what is effectively the world championship. Within three hours he had taken four West Indian wickets and sent three batsmen to hospital.

The vulnerability of the West Indian batting was brutally exposed as they staggered to 75 for six before Dujon and Ambrose launched a recovery of sorts. By then, Haynes and Greenidge had had x-rays on foot and collarbone injuries, and Logie was having a facial wound stitched. The world champions were in disarray.

Allan Border will privately have considered this a good toss to lose, for the grassless pitch, flooded twice since Tuesday to hold it together, was neither hard nor true on this first morning, and the seam bowlers were never played with absolute confidence.

There was, however, more to the clatter of wickets than demanding conditions could entirely excuse. There was, within this collapse, the confirmation which Australia had been seeking, of a team which no longer bats with the depth and conviction of old, a team which will be perilously reliant on its fast bowling strength to paper over the widening cracks.

As the toss took place, before sparsely-filled stands on a cloudless morning, there was, perhaps, something symbolic about the sight of Greg Chappell and Clive Lloyd talking together on the edge of the pitch. They were the captains 15 years ago, when Australia won 5-1 and Lloyd vowed that his team would never again be so humiliated. To this day they have not been, but their status has seldom been under such siege.

Greenidge and Haynes, a partnership undisturbed for a dozen years, accorded the occasion their most attentive mode, no frills attached. But with the score on nine, in the fifth over, Haynes was struck full on the left foot by McDermott and, after ripping off his pad and boot to inspect the damage, hobbled painfully away for an x-ray.

Richardson, as usual, wore no helmet but, curiously, sported a watch on his left wrist. He was, unsurprisingly, greeted with a bouncer first ball, and the Australians, thereafter, attacked him relentlessly. On six, he was put down, left-handed, by Waugh at second slip, but Hughes, in his second over, quickly had him caught behind with a ball which bounced excessively.

Four years after his precocious debut, Hooper remains insecure. A century in the final Test against Pakistan last autumn encouraged the thought that he was about to fulfil his potential but, here, he followed up with nought, a loose drive against Hughes bringing a characteristically sharp one-handed catch by Marsh at gully.

Richards arrived in such a hurry that he had to signal for his forgotten wristbands, a hint of nerves which his usual swagger did nothing to diminish. Twice, his left hand came off the handle as he drove indiscreetly, but when McDermott switched ends to relieve the nagging Whitney, it seemed he had slipped the Australian leash.

A leg-stump half-volley and a long hop were dispatched contemptuously to the square-leg boundary, runs which took him past 8,000 in Test cricket. But he went impulsively for the hook again when McDermott once more dropped short and, this time, the ball was too wide of off stump, the shot was uncontrolled and Hughes, at long leg, took a well-judged catch, to the absolute silence of the crowd and the unconfined joy of the Australians.

Greenidge was a deadpan observer of all this, only his bright eyes darting glances from under his helmet. He needs runs in this series to justify one more tour of England and his determination is plain. He had expressed himself only with two evocative straight drives before being hit painfully on the collarbone by McDermott just prior to lunch.

He resumed after treatment but carried his right arm stiffly and, in the third over of the afternoon, checked a drive to give McDermott a return catch. Soon, the rampant McDermott had inflicted a third injury, and an ugly one, Logie being hit above the right eye as he missed a hook. He was led away for stitches to the wound and Haynes returned with a runner.

This was short-lived heroism. A clever slower ball from McDermott produced a vague push from Haynes and the stumps scattered behind him. Marshall was leg-before first ball, across his stumps to one keeping low, and at 75 for six, with Logies's return uncertain, the West Indies were struggling to eclipse even their collapse against England on this same ground a year ago.

WEST INDIES: First innings

C G Greenidge c and b McDermott	27
D L Haynes b McDermott	8
R B Richardson c Healy b Hughes	15
C L Hooper c Marsh b Hughes	0
*I V A Richards c Hughes b McDermott	11
A L Logie retired hurt	9
M D Marshall lbw b McDermott	0
†P L J Dujon not out	31
C E L Ambrose c and b Waugh	33
C A Walsh not out	0
Extras	10
Total (7 wkts)	144

B P Patterson to bat.

AUSTRALIA: M A Taylor, G R Marsh, D C Boon, D M Jones, *A R Border, M E Waugh, G R J Matthews, †I A Healy, C J McDermott, M G Hughes, M R Whitney.

Sri Lanka make a fine start

AUCKLAND — Sri Lanka gave an adventurous batting display to reach 325 for eight after being put in to bat on a difficult pitch on the first day of the third and deciding Test match against New Zealand here yesterday.

The innings was built on a sparkling 96 by Aravinda de Silva, a fourth successive half-century by Asanka Gurusinha, and a lightning 41 not out in 29 balls by Graeme Labrooy.

Ian Smith, captaining New Zealand in place of Martin Crowe, who is injured, was happy to put Sri Lanka in on a pitch which promised lively bounce and movement, but only excellent fast bowling from Chris Cairns, aged 21 and playing in his second Test, saved Smith from embarrassment. Cairns troubled all the batsmen with sharp pace and disconcerting lift.

SRI LANKA: First innings

C Senanayake c Smith b Cairns	20
C Hathurusinghe b Watson	13
A P Gurusinha lbw b Cairns	50
P A de Silva c Smith b Cairns	96
*A Ranatunga c Smith b Cairns	34
†H P Tillakaratne lbw b Morrison	31
S T Jayasuriya c Smith b Watson	18
E A R de Silva c Jones b Patel	2
G F Labrooy not out	41
Extras (b 2, lb 12, nb 6)	20
Total (8 wkts)	325

R J Ratnayake and C P Ramanayake to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-61, 3-132, 4-228, 5-234, 6-255, 7-273, 8-325.

BOWLING: Morrison 20-5-82-1; Cairns 25-4-114-4; Watson 24.5-8-58-2; Thomson 12.1-6-22-0; Patel 8-2-37-1.

NEW ZEALAND: T J Franklin, J G Wright, A H Jones, M J Greatbatch, K R Rutherford, *†I D S Smith, D N Patel, S Thomson, C L Cairns, D K Morrison, W Watson.

● WINDHOEK, Namibia: MCC begin their 18-day tour with a limited-overs match against a President's XI here today (Paul Parker writes). On its first visit to Namibia, the MCC party has had only a day to acclimatise to the heat and rarefied atmosphere of the capital, which is over 5,000 feet above sea level. With the temperature reaching 35C, the early battles will be as much with the elements as against a keen home side which is anxious to impress what the local newspaper describes as "the world's most famous and best team". The seven-match tour includes two one-day internationals and a three-day unofficial Test match.

Hussain defiance rescues England

From Richard Streeton in Colombo

A DOUR stand between Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe redeemed a poor start by England A when the third unofficial Test match with Sri Lanka A began at the P. Saravanamuttu Oval here yesterday.

England slumped to 59 for four, after they were asked to bat first, before Hussain and Thorpe stayed together for the rest of the day. By the close, England were 192 for four from 88 overs; the umpires took the players off for bad light.

Hussain and Thorpe had led a similar England recovery from shaky beginnings nearly a fortnight ago in the second Test at the SSC ground. On that occasion, and despite having failed twice in the first Test at Kandy, Hussain went on to make 161 in nearly eight hours. Thorpe reached his third half-century in three Tests. He was seldom completely at ease but manfully rode through his uncertainty.

It was gritty, uncompromising cricket on a pitch which had plenty of grass left on it. The Sri Lanka seamers moved the new ball freely and their four spinners maintained a disciplined line and length, though there was not much turn for them.

Hussain and Thorpe both batted a shade more than four hours without serious error. Hussain was perhaps fortunate, at 36, to survive a leg-before appeal by Ahangama. So far, he has hit seven fours and faced 190 balls.

Thorpe has ten fours from 181 balls and the pair's unfinished fifth-wicket stand has put on 133 runs in 61 overs. Thorpe was twice beaten by Edirimanne when Sri Lanka took a new ball at 177 after 82 overs. The first occasion caused the umpires to consult and the second led to the players going off with two overs left.

Bicknell, who was caught at first slip, and Morris, who was held at short leg, were both beaten by unexpected bounce during the first hour. Blakey seemed relaxed before he and Ramprakash fell to successive balls just before lunch.

Blakey dabbed a catch to slip in the second over bowled by Deshapriya, the new leg spinner. Ramprakash was bowled by Anurasiri's arm ball when he went on the back foot and tried a forcing stroke past cover.

ENGLAND A
First innings

D J Bicknell c Kuruppu b Ahangama	6
*H Morris c Wijesinghe b Edirimanne	9
R J Blakey c Kuruppu b Desapriya	30
M Ramprakash b Anurasiri	7
N Hussain not out	68
G P Thorpe not out	59
Extras (b 1, lb 7, nb 5)	13
Total (4 wkts)	192

†W K Hegg, P J Newport, R K Illingworth, R A Pick and M C Ilott to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-24, 3-59, 4-59.

BOWLING: Edirimanne 17-4-40-1; Ahangama 18-5-43-1; Anurasiri 18-1-38-1; Kalpage 18-5-23-0; Desapriya 13-4-20-1; Jurangpathy 8-1-22-0.

● Northamptonshire have signed Eldine Baptiste, the former Kent all-rounder, on a one-year contract as their overseas player. Nigel Cowley, the Glamorgan all-rounder, is to retire.

● Hampshire have announced a record profit of £70,986.

Board asks for Dexter

THE executive committee of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) will recommend next week that Ted Dexter be asked to continue chairing England's committee for a further year (Ivo Tennant writes). Although there will inevitably be some criticism of his role following the disappointing tour of Australia, he will almost certainly be reappointed.

The recommendation, to be put before the TCCB's spring meeting, is for all the England committee to be re-elected. The members are, besides Dexter, Alan Smith (chief executive), Ossie Wheatley, chairman of the cricket committee, and Micky Stewart, the manager.

Stewart is under contract to the TCCB until September 1992, but Dexter's position is renewable each March. This was the case with England's selectors in the past. Dexter has stated his wish for a four-year term: if he is reappointed, this will be his third year as chairman.

ATHLETICS

British bonus may be in sprints

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

IN CASE anyone doubts it, British athletics should receive a sharp reminder tomorrow that its strength is its sprinting.

John Regis and Linford Christie will be looking for victories to give Britain the impetus to beat the United States in the Vauxhall indoor international at the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. Success in their individual events would help morale for a world record attempt in the final event, the 4 x 200 metres relay.

In the 60 metres, Christie faces Andre Cason, the American who has been popping around the 6.60sec mark this season while Christie has run 6.55 and 6.56 in recent races in Ghent and Seville; Regis runs the 200 metres against Thomas Jefferson, the 1984 Olympic bronze medal winner. Britain will be looking not just for Christie and Regis to win, but for Michael Rosswess, in the 60 metres, and for Ade Mafe, in the 200 metres, to finish second.

Had Leroy Burrell and Michael Johnson been in the away team, less would be expected. Christie was beaten convincingly by both at RAF Cosford a fortnight ago, but has dusted himself down from the double punch. Since then he has won at the shorter distance in Ghent and Seville.

Christie also won the 200 metres in Ghent, but Regis defeated him in Seville on Thurday. Regis begins to wear the 'who's afraid of Michael Johnson?' look. Now that Johnson, the world No. 1, has extended his season — he won the 400 metres in Seville — when a fortnight ago he was planning to finish last weekend, the promoters of the Athens meeting on March 13 are apparently trying for the big one: Johnson v Regis at 200 metres.

In the last event tomorrow, Regis, Christie, Mafe and Darren Braithwaite attempt to break the 4 x 200 metres world record of 1min 22.32sec, set by Italy seven years ago. With sound changeovers, the record should be theirs.

While Christie will start favourite for the 60 metres at the world indoor championships next week, that role in the 1,500 metres belongs to Noureddine Morceli. The Algerian, aged 21, improved Peter Elliott's world record by 0.04sec on Thursday with 3min 34.16sec.

Elliott has been injured and is not contesting the world championship, leaving Fermin Cacho, a Spaniard who moved up to third all-time with 3min 35.29sec in Seville, as Morceli's closest challenger.

Morceli was the world's quickest outdoors last summer, his 3min 32.60sec, denying Elliott the honour and prompting Said Aouita, at least, according to Morceli, to lavish praise on him. "Aouita said to me: you have the same talent like me," Morceli said. "You are the only one who can break my 1,500 metres (outdoor) record." Elliott's brilliance this time last year is too recent for him to be so sure of that.

SPORT

SUMMARY

Testing times

IF AN eventful first day is an indication of the course the series is to follow, West Indies face quite a challenge from Australia over five Test matches in the Carribean. Two batsmen were forced to retire hurt and wickets fell as Craig McDermott, above, led the Australian bowling on the opening day of the first Test in Kingston, Jamaica, yesterday. Alan Lee reports from Sabina Park on the start of a series which the Australians hope will herald a change in the balance of power in world cricket ....Page 41

COMPETITION

Grand chance

THE Seagram Grand National is one of the best events in the British sporting calendar. Today, readers have a chance to win a luxury day out with a companion at Aintree next month..Page 38

ATHLETICS

Sprint finish

BRITISH sprinters have their minds on beating American opposition and setting a world record in Glasgow tomorrow. David Powell looks forward to the indoor international at the Kelvin Hall, where Linford Christie and John Regis head the home challenge.........Page 41

COLUMN

Screen test

WHAT have Cherie Lunghi, above, and Kenny Dalglish in common? The answer is the stress of football management. Laura Thompson draws a parallel between Lunghi, who plays Gabriella Benson in *The Manageress*, and the former Liverpool manager ....Page 37

HOCKEY

False start

ENGLAND'S preparations for the European Cup suffered a setback yesterday when they were beaten by Wales in the opening match in the home countries women's international tournament at Durham. Helen Jones scored the only goal. Scotland beat Ireland 2-1 in the other match ....Page 37

GOLF

In the clear

WHEN Michael McLean won the Portuguese Open last year, it allowed him to gloat over the prospect of avoiding the European Tour qualifying school after two hard winters. Mitchell Platts finds him on course for success again after two rounds of the Mediterranean Open in Nice ...Page 38

RACING

Way to go

PETER Scudamore may switch to Sondrio for the Champion Hurdle Page 38

Crown awaits England

From David Hands, rugby correspondent, Dublin

THE problems England have encountered on the way to the wearing of a triple crown — let alone achieving a grand slam — need no further illustration than a look at the statistics. Since the international rugby union championship, in its accepted form, began in 1883, England have been crowned 15 times, and only four times during the post-war period.

Ireland, their hosts in the Digital international at Lansdowne Road today, can equal that latter record, which says a great deal about the respective use of resources. There can be no room for complacency in the English camp, therefore, no overlooking a fervent Irish team, because England's view is on the higher ground of a potential winner-takes-all contest with France in a fortnight's time.

"We are aware of complacency, having beaten Ireland four times in succession," Geoff Cooke, the England team manager, said, "but we hope to have the attitude right. Ireland will be bursting with enthusiasm and always play that much better against England."

The greatest danger to England today is the high-risk rugby that Ireland must hope to play. It is a curious anomaly: Ireland, traditionally the country of sound and fury and tumultuous forwards, England that of the calm and measured tread best exemplified by some classical midfield players of a generation and more ago. But Ireland enter the fray wanting to use their backs, whereas England will want to dominate up front and deny them possession.

To offer effective back play, however, Ireland depend on their pack to take them forward, to give Rob Saunders and Brian Smith that precious commodity, room. They achieved as much during their last game at Lansdowne Road, against France last month, holding their ground at the scrums and doing far better at the lineout than even they had anticipated. Now, their lineout has been reinforced by Neil Francis, whose detractors are still waiting to see him offer a full 80 minutes of genuine international rugby, but whose athleticism is not in doubt.

It is a critical area of the game, where England were so secure against Scotland. It is there that Ireland will seek to offer a multitude of variations, using Brian Robinson and Philip Matthews in different roles; but what worked against an inexperienced, unconfident Welsh side should have less impact on the English forwards — Dooley in his fortieth game, Winterbottom in his 41st, Richards in his 24th.

Experience is not Ireland's greatest commodity: so much depends on Matthews among the forwards, on Smith and Mullin in the backs. Crossan, with 35 caps, has as many games to his credit as Mullin, but his place on the wing — where he overtakes Trevor Ringland's record for the position — makes him more peripheral to the decision-making process. If Saunders and Smith have their supply reduced at source, then the offensive capabilities of the men further out will be less relevant.

But Ireland do have a boundless well of enthusiasm, a side whipped up by Ciaran Fitzgerald, old enough to know better but young enough not to care. "The young guys in the backs have offered us extra dimensions — and there's a lot of genuine speed outside me which is a real asset," Smith said. "It may be a very young, new-look side and we will go in very much as underdogs, but we will be very competitive and we hope to make it difficult for England."

The risks will not weigh them down as they have appeared to do England this five nations' season, to the vexation of many critics. England have found a formula which suits them, in their particular mental state, and they will not rush to depart from it however talented they believe their back division — incautiously labelled the best in Europe last season, heedless of the claims of some useful Frenchmen — to be.

Yet this is the day when they must develop a broader game, thinking not so much of the matches to be won this season but those to come. Will Carling, the captain, comparing the attitude of his team with that which preceded the Welsh and Scottish games, said: "This is an emotional occasion too because a triple crown is on offer, but it's a big game in a huge year." That huge year will require England to use all their talents with which they have been judicious in the extreme.

Stiff task for Wales, page 40

RUSSELL CHEYNE

Passing time: Hodgkinson, the England full back, in training in Dublin yesterday

TODAY'S TEAMS AT LANSDOWNE ROAD

Ireland			England	
J E Staples (London Irish)	15	Full back	**S D Hodgkinson** (Nottingham)	15
S P Geoghegan (London Irish)	14	Right wing	**N J Heslop** (Orrell)	14
B J Mullin (Blackrock College)	13	Right centre	**W D C Carling*** (Harlequins)	13
D M Curtis (London Irish)	12	Left centre	**J C Guscott** (Bath)	12
K D Crossan (Instonians)	11	Left wing	**R Underwood** (Leicester)	11
B A Smith (Leicester)	10	Stand off	**C R Andrew** (Wasps)	10
R Saunders* (London Irish)	9	Scrum half	**R J Hill** (Bath)	9
J J Fitzgerald (Young Munster)	1	Prop	**J Leonard** (Harlequins)	1
S J Smith (Ballymena)	2	Hooker	**B C Moore** (Harlequins)	2
D C Fitzgerald (Lansdowne)	3	Prop	**J A Probyn** (Wasps)	3
P M Matthews (Wanderers)	6	Flanker	**M C Teague** (Gloucester)	6
B J Rigney (Greystones)	4	Lock	**P J Ackford** (Harlequins)	4
N P Francis (Blackrock College)	5	Lock	**W A Dooley** (Preston Grasshoppers)	5
G F Hamilton (NIFC)	7	Flanker	**P J Winterbottom** (Harlequins)	7
B F Robinson (Ballymena) *Captain	8	No 8	**D Richards** (Leicester) *Captain	8

Referee: A Ceccon (France)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 K J Murphy (Constitution), 17 V J G Cunningham (St Mary's College), 18 A C Rolland (Blackrock College), 19 N P Mannion (Lansdowne), 20 G F Halpin (Wanderers), 21 T J Kingston (Dolphin)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J M Webb (Bath), 17 S J Halliday (Harlequins), 18 C D Morris (Orrell), 19 P A G Rendall (Wasps), 20 C J Olver (Northampton), 21 M G Skinner (Harlequins)

Five nations' table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
England........	2	2	0	0	46	18	4
France...........	2	2	0	0	36	22	4
Scotland.......	3	1	0	2	53	46	2
Ireland..........	2	0	1	1	34	42	1
Wales............	3	0	1	2	39	78	1

RESULTS: Jan 19: France 15, Scotland 9; Wales 6, England 25. Feb 2: Ireland 13, France 21; Scotland 32, Wales 12. Feb 16: England 21, Scotland 12; Wales 21, Ireland 21.

MATCHES TO COME: Today: France v Wales; Ireland v England. Mar 16: England v France; Scotland v Ireland.

LAST SEASON: England 23, Ireland 0; Wales 19, France 29; France 7, England 26; Ireland 10, Scotland 13; England 34, Wales 6; Scotland 21, France 0; Wales 9, Scotland 13; France 31, Ireland 12; Scotland 13, England 7; Ireland 14, Wales 8.

Other details

- England have won 58 games in a series which started in 1875. Ireland have won 36 of the 103 games played and the last of the eight draws was in 1968.
- Ireland's last victory was in 1987, also a World Cup year, when they won 17-0. Their biggest winning margin was 22-0 in 1947, in Dublin, while England's best was the 35-3 win at Twickenham in 1988.
- No player has scored more in a single match than Ollie Campbell's 21 points in 1983 in a 25-15 Irish win. Alan Old kicked 17 points at Twickenham in 1974, but England still lost 26-21.
- Of the present Irish team, Keith Crossan, Brendan Mullin and Phil Matthews have played six times against England, Des Fitzgerald five times, Steve Smith three and Neil Francis once. Of England's team, Simon Hodgkinson, Jeremy Guscott, Nigel Heslop and Jason Leonard are the only ones who have not played at Lansdowne Road.

Sponsors come to World Cup's aid

Dublin

RUGBY World Cup Ltd is due to announce, over the next month, a rolling series of sponsors who will be involved in the tournament in Britain, Ireland and France this autumn (David Hands writes). Such announcements, covering main sponsors and official suppliers, will do much to allay fears that the event will be less successful, financially, than was originally hoped.

The only main sponsor agreed so far is the food company, H. J. Heinz UK, who revealed details here yesterday of the £3 million programme which will back up their initial fee, believed to be around £1 million. The company will also donate a fair play award to the team incurring fewest penalties during the month-long competition, which begins on October 3.

"We hope this award will help to reinforce the values that we hold to be so important in rugby and will play its part in building the right image for the game," Tony O'Reilly, the chairman of Heinz, said.

O'Reilly, the former Ireland and British Isles wing, speaking at Old Belvedere — one of the clubs for whom he played during a distinguished career — added: "We want to foster rugby's development wherever possible in the world."

Toshack now favourite for Liverpool job

By Ian Ross

LIVERPOOL will seek to appoint John Toshack as their new manager next week. His position as favourite to succeed Kenny Dalglish, who resigned nine days ago, was strengthened yesterday when Alan Hansen, the Liverpool captain, announced his retirement from professional football.

Hansen, aged 35, who had been expected to be interviewed about the vacant post, said that he had no interest in pursuing a career in either coaching or management.

Toshack, the former manager of Real Madrid, was a prominent figure in the successful Liverpool side of the 1970s. He is working as a consultant at Real Sociedad, but recently signed a five-year contract and will become first-team coach from July 1.

Sociedad are fully aware of Liverpool's interest and have already indicated they will look for compensation of around £1.5 million if Toshack was to return to English football.

Publicly, at least, Real are remaining steadfast. Iñaqui Otegui, their secretary, denied that Liverpool had even contacted them. "They have no reason to do so," he said. "John has signed a five-year contract. We expect him to honour it."

If the cost of securing Toshack proves to be too prohibitive, Liverpool will almost certainly appoint Ronnie Moran, the chief coach at Anfield who was made caretaker-manager following Dalglish's unexpected departure.

Although Hansen's retirement from playing because of persistent problems with his right knee is no great surprise, his decision to completely sever his links with football most certainly is.

"I have never had any aspirations to stay in football and I shall not go back on this decision," he said. "I made up my mind three weeks ago, but the chairman and I thought it better to end the speculation now rather than have me leave after a new manager is appointed. That may have looked like a case of sour grapes."

Hansen was signed from Partick Thistle by Bob Paisley for £100,000 in April 1977 and made 620 senior appearances for Liverpool. He won eight championship medals, three European Cup medals, three in the League Cup and two in the FA Cup. He made 26 appearances for Scotland.

"He has had 14 wonderfully successful years at this club and he will be missed," Noel White, the Liverpool chairman, said. "It was possible that he would have been invited to remain on our staff had he indicated such a desire."

- Johan Cruyff, the Barcelona coach, who underwent heart surgery two days ago, was transferred from intensive care yesterday.

Top spot may not save Robson's job

By Clive White

PSV Eindhoven may revert to their first choice as coach should Bobby Robson, the former England manager, deviate only slightly from the demands for excellence placed on him by the Dutch club.

PSV are top of the league and on Wednesday qualified for the semi-finals of the Dutch Cup, yet it is common knowledge that they are not satisfied with Robson's performance as coach and wish to appoint Dick Advocaat, the assistant to Rinus Michels, the national team coach.

The players and Hans Dorjee, the assistant coach, have expressed their disapproval of Robson, describing him as too much of a gentleman and tactically unqualified to coach in The Netherlands. Arnold Muhren, who played for Robson at Ipswich, is among his critics.

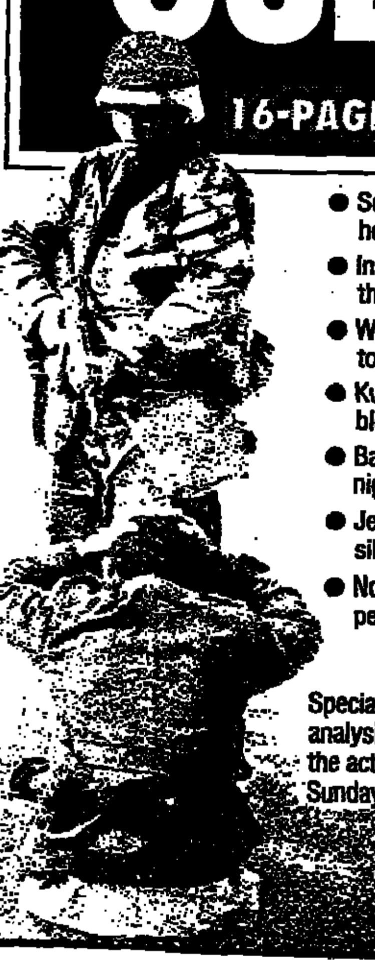
The club's early elimination from the Cup Winners' Cup by Montpellier has much to do with PSV's dissatisfaction. It is estimated that the defeat cost the club, at the very least, 1 million guilders (about £300,000). When Robson agreed to sign a lucrative two-year contract to join the Dutch club last May — at a time when he was still England's team manager — he was second choice for the position.

Robson, however, is standing firm. "I respect contracts," he said. "In 21 years, I have only ever had two and respected them both."

THE SUNDAY TIMES

VICTORY IN THE GULF

16-PAGE SPECIAL



- Secrets of the 100-hour war
- In the desert with the Rats
- White House wimp to warrior
- Kuwait's post-war bloodshed
- Baghdad's eternal nightmare
- Jeremiahs won't be silenced
- Now for the hard bit: peace

Special reports and analysis from the centre of the action in tomorrow's Sunday Times.

Jumpers still looking for a launch pad

British ski jumping goes from strength to strength. Salutations to James Lambert, the British ski jumper who wins things. Lambert, an old friend of this column, won a combined Nordic event last year: now, he has won a pure jumping competition, finishing equal first at the recent Buchenbery championships in Germany. He went on to gain a second place in the combined event at Schwabischer. In the meantime, the British Ski Federation (BSF) continues in its unending efforts to build an artificial ski jump in Britain. There is a possibility of two sites in Teesdale — one on a disused open-cast coal mine and a further possibility on a dead slagheap.

There is more sporting good sense in the idea than meets the eye. The British efforts in Alpine skiing have never set the world on fire. This is mainly because it is hard for a Brit downhill skier to get much practice in Britain. The advantage of ski jumping is that it *can* be done properly on an artificial slope. Tim Asburner, of the BSF, a man who one could call the father of British ski jumping, asks rhetorically why has the country "never provided for the one form of skiing which can be precisely simulated in this country, and which was the creation of our Viking forefathers?"

SIMON BARNES

ON SATURDAY

Cycling celebrities

This column, as ever green in tooth and claw, sends greetings to Fatima Whitbread and Bill Beaumont. This unlikely sounding couple will be taking part, along with other non-sporting celebs, in an event called "Bike to the Future" in aid of Friends of the Earth on May 25. It is a mass cycle ride from London to Hever Castle in Kent, covering 35 miles.

Froggy fits the bill

Melbourne's city square is called City Square. Its arts centre is called The Arts Centre. Its tennis centre is called The Tennis Centre. Now, the city is thrumming with tensions — what will they call the new stand recently completed at the MCG, or Melbourne Cricket Ground? It is just possible that the MCC (Melbourne Cricket Club) could go raving mad and call the stand after a cricketer. Perhaps, the Bill Woodfull Stand to match the stand named after his batting partner, Bill Ponsford. Richie Benaud suggested a Lindsay Hassett Stand.

Others prefer the idea of honouring a politician or player of Melbourne's other game, Australian No Rules Football. Me, I think it should be called after Alan "Froggy" Thomson, who played four Test matches against England in 1970-1, when he was brought in as the answer to John Snow. He wasn't. He took 12 wickets at 54.5. He was called Froggy because of his chaotic, wardrobe-going-downhill bowling action. I implore the MCC to call this the Froggy Thomson Stand.

Gold for the bold

More lunacy in the snow. Congratulations (I suppose) to Bob Baker, who won the Iditasport Human Powered Ultramarathon Event held in Alaska recently. The idea was to complete a 200-mile course, and you could choose your weapon — mountain bike, cross-country skis or snow shoes. You could also use a combination of all three. Baker, the overall winner, chose skis, completed the course in 28hr 40min and was given the distinctly interesting prize of five ounces of gold. The leading three in each category all finished in the money. Probably the worst time of all was suffered by the lone Brit, a mountain biker called Simon Gibson. Because of the soft snow, he had to push the bike most of the way and, after camping overnight, he withdrew with an injured ankle. He had covered 60 miles: every one of them, no doubt, Dante-esque.

- *Jesus Gil, the president of Atlético Madrid, is another old friend of this column. He has recently been singing what he no doubt sincerely believes are the praises of his manager, the well-travelled Yugoslav, Tomislav Ivic. "Even when he is making love," Gil declares, "all he is thinking of is Atlético Madrid." Gil, of course, was banned until 1994 by Uefa, European football's governing body, after declaring that a referee who had incurred his wrath had been "bribed with a blue-eyed Florentine boy".*

Going underground

The Norwegian town of Gjoevik has never had a global reputation for megalomania, but that is changing fast. They plan to build an ice hockey stadium which will last half a million years, act as a shelter from nuclear attack and will require the dynamiting of 150,000 tonnes of rock. It will be constructed *underground* and, if the designers have their way, will be ready for the winter Olympics of 1994. "An underground hall can put us on the map," Hans Hagene, Olympic co-ordinator for Gjoevik, said. "If the Rolling Stones ever break up, it would be the ideal place for a farewell concert."